



STEAMSHOVELPRESS

ALL CONSPIRACY. NO THEORY.

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THIS ISSUE: John Judge Interviewed - Wilhelm Reich, MJ12 and Roswell -
Dialogue in Hell, Part Two - Acharya S on Jesus and Josephus - The Kirby
Conspiracy - The Real Philadelphia Experiment - Much more!

CARIES, CABALS AND CORRESPONDENCE



Letters to the Editor
POB 210553; St. Louis, MO 63121

Brother Kenn,

You are a class act! I just received *Popular Paranoia*, the new *Steamshovel* back issue anthology. It means a lot to me. I am sorry about brother Jim Keith who died of a "broken leg"! Your work will remain long after we are gone -- those of us who know what happened to us. It means a lot, Kenn. It is real news, history.

Grateful,
Steve in America

You don't know me but I was a friend of Bill Cooper's. [*Steamshovel* debris: Cooper authored the renown conspiracy book, *Behold A Pale Horse* and was shot dead by sheriff's deputies during a gun battle at his home in Eagar, Arizona on November 6, 2001]. Just so that what you wrote in the obituary is completely accurate, he did not lose a leg in military service. He lost it in a motorcycle accident some time after he left the Navy.

Also his claim about Kennedy/Greer [*Steamshovel* debris: This refers to the "driver-did-it" theory of the Kennedy assassination, which Cooper helped publicize.] does not involve a .45 but a gas powered/pellet projecting assassination weapon produced for the CIA. True? Who knows? But I know for a fact that these two points are accurate, the rest (possibly arguable) I leave to the sages. And, yes, he could be a complete ass at times, but I believe in my heart of hearts that he was an honorable man. I thank

you for not being too disparaging in your writings. He meant a lot to me.

Spencer Warren
dailywarren@earthlink.net
Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas

Nicholas Towasser organized a panel discussion, "Monotone Media and Voices on the Margins", in New York in January 2003, to examine the lack of true diversity and vigorous political discourse in the news media. Co-sponsored by NY alumni clubs for Medill and Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, the panel included Steamshovel editor Kenn Thomas. Following are some of Nicholas Towasser's comments about the panel.

Ideally, the goal of news providers is to gather as much information and as many perspectives as possible and to allow the public to think for itself. Some of the panelists, however, were against the inclusion of white racists. They targeted a group even more marginalized than Marxists or anarchists. To me, mandatory multiculturalism and mass immigration are as vital to contemporary capitalism as private property. Unlike leftists, racists aren't squeamish about raising this point. I wonder if some on the panel only want the public to hear one critique of the market: theirs.

Moreover, why limit one's objection to racists to "neo-Nazis"? Why not racists from the other branches of the human family? What about black separatists, Latino nationalists, Zionists. We know that none of these people are warm and cuddly. So why cut off white racism from the discussion? Is African racism more enlightened...or hip? Or cute?

Also, the word "neo-Nazi" can be ambiguous. It's like "thin", "pretty" or "fun". Who is a "neo-Nazi"? Is it someone who doesn't embrace integration and multiculturalism a Nazi? If so, then do we cut off all who don't embrace these facets of modern life from the discourse? If we do that, then a major aspect of contemporary political life has been left unchallenged. It's like barring feminists from a discussion of the family.

The bottom line is that I should have allowed the discussion to focus longer on this topic. It was, and is, a vital point. I recall feeling that we had a lot of things to cover in a limited amount of time, and that I didn't want to get too hung up on any one thing, but...some topics should have been sacrificed to address this. I salute Kenn for saying that this position was essentially no different than Fox News. It amounts to *continued on inside back cover*

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On the cover: "The Angel" from *The Art of Jack Kirby* by Ray Wyman Jr, Blue Rose Press, Inc. Used with permission. Contact via www.heavypen.com.

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CAUTION: This magazine concerns parapolitics and conspiracy. It contains a great deal of controversy that elicits a variety of responses, including: fascination; horror; a sense of liberation; a dull feeling in the pit of the stomach; paranoia--the bad feeling that the world is out to get you; and metanoia--a sense of relief that you are not alone in the struggle to deal with it. Some people dismiss this stuff as paranoid garbage; others find that it enriches their understanding of current affairs. The reader is under no pressure to decide.

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Mel Gordon

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JOHN JUDGE INTERVIEWED

By Kenn Thomas and Skylaire Alfvegren

K: Has there been a big difference in interest in Coalition On Political Assassinations since 9/11?

J: I wouldn't say the mainstream press has changed at all.

S: But its gotten to the point where even some of the people who voted for Bush and were gung ho, have said, since all these others things have happened, well, maybe there's something we haven't been told...

J: People who were perfectly willing to believe insane conspiracies about Clinton. The whole focus on the Bilderbergers, and the Trilateral Commission is a focus on the eastern establishment. It's not on the whole class! Not one of them will ever mention the military industrial complex or the southern rim economy or NAFTA or the DIA, which is ten times as big, a hundred times the budget of the CIA and the FBI combined! You know? But they want to talk about the Trilateral Commission and they want to talk about the eastern establishment

K: I thought the dialogue would change after 9/11 with all the talk of sleeper units and mind control. Before it supposedly was just crazy people talking, but after 9/11, here it is in everyone's face.

J: People talk about the Bilderbergers, they can pin it on Rockefeller, or the Trilateral Commission, you know, or the New World Order as its called. I don't know what they think 9/11 is from that perspective, or if they just think its some kind of like "the government's comin' to get your gun." I

don't know what they think it is. I guess they get into the constitution stuff. Some of the guys were counter-demonstrating against us, these reactionary veterans hang out at Lincoln Memorial, you know, playing music to drown us out. But one of our group said "we don't want to take the constitution apart either!", and I'm like, when are people going start talking to each other here?

K: Our last interview, just after the Oklahoma City bombing, you actually said that if they were really going to target anything, they should do the Trade Towers and the Pentagon. You got that right on the money.

J: Yeah. I said those would be... I wasn't recommending it, or anything, but those would be more likely targets for an external group. That's why I said, I knew that day that Oklahoma was an internal domestic.



Above: John Judge

K: You don't think that an international connection existed to the Oklahoma City bombing?

J: I don't. They're trying to stretch it to say was an Iraqi or an al Qaeda agent now. They've been going on about that forever.

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The two guys who were tried, they were from the base. You'll remember that there were these four Arab guys, in jumpsuits, and they got into a van. Right. Now they can blame it on al Qaeda. So yeah, I don't believe that McVeigh was a patsy. I call him the "schmuck in the truck." He drives up to this guy at a gas station, 45 minutes before the bomb goes off, asking directions to the building. Now, excuse me, this guy's just loaded it up with bombs and he's never driven there before.

S: Then you've got a witness, "that guy came here and..."

J: Yeah, that, too. You're exposing yourself to a witness. The guy that called the FBI that morning said, "well, I remember there were these four arabs who were arguing with me over the parking space. Maybe it was them." Well, five years of planning this thing, you're not going to have a roe in front of a witness. You're already targeted as a arab, are you going to be an angry arab? The problem is there was no such argument and this guy's just the shill.

It's like the flight manual in farsi about how to fly that plane found in the car truck in Florida. If you went to the trouble of getting it, why the hell would you not bring it on you? They couldn't even hire anybody to read farsi. I mean, it was the last 15 minutes, take the damn thing with you!

And they were coming and going, and making noise and everything, and she said who are these guys? They went to a titty bar! I mean, there were flags up all over the place on these guys. And they were making themselves obvious. That tells me it was a covert operation where you're creating false sponsorship. Its like the guy that went to a shooting range outside of Dallas, two weeks before Kennedy was killed, shot at another guy's target and when the other guy complains, and he says, to hell with you, I'm

Lee Harvey Oswald, remember my name. And he did.

It wasn't Oswald, of course. It was one of these doubles that was running around. So you spend more time on a cover story of a covert operation, and more personnel, than you do on the act itself. But McVeigh, to me, that was just a schmuck in a truck. He's got his military orders. He's taken this truck to this address, and he's supposed to find his car there, which he does, and the car, unbeknownst to him, has no license plates. The first state trooper that sees him pulls him over! And in the state trooper's report, he says he pulled him over, and a blue van pulled in front, and stopped. He went to McVeigh and he asked him if he was armed, and McVeigh hands over his gun. You'd think that if he'd just killed 180 people, what the hell is one more cop? You know what I mean?

So McVeigh gives up his gun, and the cop secures him and arrests him, because he has no plates. And then he's got all that done and he's got McVeigh sitting in the back of the car. Then he goes up to the guy in the blue van and he says, "I wasn't pulling you over, I pulled this other guy over." The van sits there all the way through the arrest. He says, "you know, you're free to go." But he notes in the report, that in the front seat of the van, there were two license plates. Now does that tell you what's going on? Do you need more information?

K: What does COPA have planned for the coming year?

J: It will be the 35th anniversary of Martin Luther King's and Robert Kennedy's assassinations, and it'll be the 40th anniversary of JFK. We want to do regional meetings in Memphis for King, and in LA for Robert Kennedy, and of course the annual event in Dallas. Simultaneous to Dallas, we will have a conference in Pittsburgh with

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Cyril Wecht and Arlen Spector. Wecht who is a former COPA president, and a well known forensic doctor and jurist. Duquesne University named a forensics school after him, the Cyril Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law. They had their first annual conference on forensic issues last year, on DNA and Arlen Spector was in attendance, wanting to talk about DNA. Wecht pulled him aside and said that he wanted to debate the single bullet theory.

K: Arlen Spector is the author of the Magic Bullet theory.

J: Yeah! I mean really, he has no shame. The defensive things he says about it still! So Cyril jumped at this chance, he and Dr. Gary Aguilar, an expert on the JFK medical evidence, are going to go up against Spector and Dr. Michael Baden So, that's going to be on the 40th anniversary in Pittsburgh. But what were going to do, because we know not everybody wants to go to Pittsburgh, were going to video simulcast it.

We also have the Martin Luther King Records Act for his life and his assassination that Cynthia McKinney is working on. It'll be introduced probably next week in congress. And were excited about that although it probably won't pass this session. If you get those files, they're going to be defined broadly enough, the assassination record was not just the day of the assassination. The Assassinations Material Review Act included the whole historical framework, the Bay of Pigs, it had the Cuban missile crisis--Kevin Costner's 13 Days movie was based on those transcripts of the meetings around. COPA had a meeting in the Bahamas with two heads of Cuban intelligence from the 60s, who they thought killed Kennedy and what they thought about Mexico City operations. So that was a very interesting.

S: Kennedy went down to Mexico City and

he was supposed to be assassinated there.

J: The thing that we were working on was that Oswald supposedly went there two weeks before the assassination, trying to get into Cuba. Its very clear that if Oswald was down there, it was a second Oswald. And the second Oswald was contacting the Soviets, and the Cuban embassy, and that they were running an operation. In John Newman's book about Oswald, *Oswald and the CIA*, he showed they were running operations that were signed off all the way to the western hemisphere desk. The top level of the CIA knew that they were playing this game with a phony Oswald visiting the embassy and saying that he wanted to get in. That was two weeks before the assassination. Basically, they're painting Oswald red and pro-Castro so they can blame it on Castro. And we talked to a Navy SEAL who got orders that day to be on a team to kill Castro.



Above: Skytaire Alfvegren and John Judge.

In Ann Landers' little book on the 30th anniversary, "Where Were You?", she prints some of the responses from around the country. She got 60,000 letters from that column. And they reprinted about 200 in this book. When she died, I was saying, let's get the rest of the letters! (laughs)

There were people all over telling us where they were, and there were some people in the military. There's this one guy who says

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that at Fort Ord they were loaded onto transport planes to invade Cuba that day. So I think that part of it was that to have Oswald pre-conceived as a pro-Castro element to use him to invade Cuba and kill Castro that day and get public support. But then they failed to kill Oswald at the Texas theater. Instead of a dead Red they had a talking head. I think they had to cancel it because he could have blown the whole thing open. They had to pull back at that point. And Castro figured that out right away, two days after, on the 23rd.

K: What did Castro say?

J: He said that this is an operation against us. This guy Oswald is a fake. He's in the Fair Play for Cuba group. This is all about blaming us. He had the thing down. He understood what they were doing.

S: Did the American press report on that?

J: No, but if you get it in the book *History Will Not Absolve Us* by E. Martin Shutz. It has a lot of the early critics. I. F. Stone, for instance, once said, when he looked into the Kennedy assassination, 'oh, that's all melodrama.' But the problem with the left was that they thought that if you looked any further for an explanation, it would go to a left conspiracy. And that the commies and the left would be blamed. So they were willing to believe in Oswald alone enough that it wouldn't come back to them. They bought it that Oswald was a leftist, you know, defected to the Soviet Union. So it was just going to be used as an anti-communist whipping.

K: He was the only member of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in New Orleans. Amiri Baraka, who right now the poet laureate of New Jersey, once told *Steamshovel* he was a member of the New York chapter. His poem about 9/11 has him condemned by the state government

and he may get kicked out of his official position.

J: Someone was supposed to write an article or a whole book about the history of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, one of the support people. That was about three years ago. And I've been waiting for it to come out, because I want to get their hit on it.

K: What do you know about the Finders? Ted Gunderson swears that these are people who sacrifice children, and you know, procure children for the pedophiles in the CIA. Finders head Marion Pettie says that he's just been holding court for the bohemian crowd in DC since the 30s.

J: I think he sees himself as an intelligence operative, too. And he had these guys in there that were working internationally, but they weren't messing with those kids. I knew that story you know, when it broke, and they were around in the critical community circles. They used to come to the conferences. They wanted to form a community and the organizing principle was going to be that people that could bring resources—like financial, money, into the place, but didn't have the physical energy or wherewithal to do the groundwork. They wanted to set it up as this cross-generational community. They would combine with younger people who had the manual resources, but they wanted to live in a community. They were interested in it, and were going around and getting some of the children, because they didn't all live in one place, and they were delivering them after they picked them up, out to this community. I think it was Kentucky, I don't remember, but anyway, I never heard what happened to that community. I knew that it existed. The children, I mean, they said the children were being abused because they didn't watch TV. (laughter)

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Mae Brussell had propagated this stuff in the end of her life. She was getting all psyched up about this satanic child abuse. And she was after this military intelligence guy I think really was dangerous. There was some abuse going on at the Presidio, that she was investigating. Mae was getting death threats once she started blowing the cover off of it. You know she was also getting off into this whole big thing, you know, of satanic child abuse going. To put it in perspective, I mean, what percentage of child abuse is satanic as compared to what percentage is Christian? (laughter) I mean, maybe its more ooey-ooey to talk about the satanic stuff, but there's plenty of child abuse to go around. So the Christians I'm sure love to talk about the satanic.

I'm sure that there is a certain level, in the world, don't know who it is, that transport and traffic in, children. Child prostitution. Kidnapped children, and who knows? Then there's that *Transformation of America*, Cathy O'Brien. Every time she tells her story, there is one more public figure that she was a sex slave for, you know? They sent me that in the mail and asked me what I thought, and I wrote back saying it reads like a pimp's manual promoting his whore. "My girlfriend is a total sex slave..." Would you like a business card?

K: Well, I know of researchers turned to debunkers of everything from the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* to the *Gemstone File*, to everything that written in the Torbitt document. Just totally trash it. Not so much based on any kind of research but just based on this hostility, the bad feelings that come out dealing with people who have issues about the mind control people. Some of them are very difficult people. They're not rational in a lot of ways. I have seen good writers and researchers turned off by their anger and frustration.

J: Yeah, I've dealt with some of them, and it is hard. Where is the line? And I've tried to help them see it. I mean, how do you sort out what's an actual, usable technology? How do you sort that out from what they say is happening to them? And why would they be the people singled out? And they're like, "they're after me!" And I'm like, "Well, why? Who are you? What are you doing to them?" And there's this total self-absorption and total self-aggrandizement. That's a little better than the people that don't even ask why. Because they're just convinced they're so important, you know.

K: But even if it's all in their heads, it doesn't mean that they're not in total agony. That's sort of the point about mind control. No matter what's happening, whether they're making it up or not, they're in the same amount of pain.

J: So, you know, I try to be empathetic at first but then I try to get them to sort it out rationally. I've had luck with that, where they've backed off and said, "yeah, you're right, I didn't think of that, you know." And I think in a way they would like to think that it is all in their heads. And to help them make it go away.

K: I try to tell them that if they're coming to me, with these problems, because they can't find anybody else that will actually talk to them about their problems and criticisms, it's far too late for them! All conspiracy theorists are crazy, don't you know? Just because I won't think so doesn't mean a lot.

J: But you really are crazy! (laughs) There's a great Ziggy cartoon. He's sitting on the psychiatrist's couch, and the line is, "Doc, everybody thinks I'm paranoid." (laughs)

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S: So when did you first start organizing COPA?

J: In 1994. Well, it was two things; back in the late 80s Bill Kelly and I decided that the next step and the research, if it could go anywhere, would be to get the files first. That's what we should focus on. And so we began, on our own to do a petition that got tens on thousands of signatures to release the King files. We got some members of Congress, Henry Gonzalez was one, to draft bills to release the JFK files. Because they didn't have any legs until Oliver Stone did the film. All these people wrote in because one of the researchers wanted to put it at the end of the film, that the files are still all fucked up. And so he did, and then the public, who knows nothing through all this, found that out and were outraged and started writing Congress, saying why don't you release these files?

So then Congress did something about it. We helped with the bill, that momentum was there, started in '92. They went another year and a half before they ever appointed a review board. The review board nominations were made, and Bush put them in his private papers and ignored them while he was in, and left the White House with them in papers that are still secret. So those nominations disappeared. So when Clinton came in, he had to start the whole nominations process over again. He got all the nominations together and then he sat on them for a year! And did nothing to appoint anybody. We had to actually get an extension, had to have a bill passed, extending the life of the review board because it was a three year review board, and it was a year and a half into its existence before it existed. We had to extend it.

We did oversee, and help with, where to look for the files and, you know, make sure that the process worked. And it's a good law. It's the best law for the release of government documents that's ever existed. From 1964 to



Above: *Steamshovel's* Kenn Thomas and John Judge.

1994, about 2,000 cases came out of the FOIA. And from '94 to '98, six million. That's the difference. Because you take it out of the hands of the agency, you put it into the hands of an independent review board. The agencies can appeal something they don't want released, but they have to appeal to the president who appointed the board. So it's not likely that they're going to win.

Now Clinton sat on those appeals, too, and did nothing. He told the FBI and the review board to settle it themselves. But the review board was strong and said it was looking at a whole category of what the FBI wanted withheld. The FBI caved in on a lot of those. So there's only a very small percent that's still redacted. Everything, I think, has to be released by 2017. The remainder is still just postponed. They couldn't just withhold.

Some of the documents have redactions, identifiers and things in them. Some of them have whole large sections still blacked out, but the conditions under which they could postpone release of anything are much narrower than FOIA. FOIA is a limited by national security. That is, if it's going to threaten the life of a living agent, if his name is revealed, if it's going to compromise an existing operation, if it's going to reveal an existing source or method, if it's going to go against the agreement made with a foreign government...

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Wilhelm Reich and MJ12?

by Jim Martin

The only hard document that I found that conclusively proves the communication between Lew Douglas and Reich, a single half-page memo, deserves a bit of scrutiny (see appendix for a facsimile of this memo). It is a note typed by Douglas' secretary reflecting a telephone call received from Bill Moïse requesting a meeting with Douglas to discuss weather modification with Reich's cloudbuster.

Here is the full text of the "Douglas-Moïse Memo":

WILLIAM MOISE (MAN FROM MAINE INTERESTED IN WEATHER CONTROL WILL BE IN N.Y. EARLY WEDNESDAY AND HOPED HE COULD SEE OR SPEAK TO YOU. I EXPLAINED YOUR SCHEDULE WAS VERY FULL AND IT WAS NOT LIKELY THAT YOU COULD SEE HIM. WILL YOU TALK TO HIM ON THE PHONE. YES NO [X]

MR. MOISE CALLED TWICE FROM MAINE AND HOPED URGENTLY THAT HE TALK WITH YOU ABOUT A NEW APPROACH FOR COMBATING THE DESERT DROUGHT.

[*Steamshovel* debris: Stapled below, a subsequent note reflects further efforts on Moïse's part to speak with Douglas:]

MR. WILLIAM MOISE OF THE ORGONE INSTITUTE, RANGELEY HANCOCK, MAINE CALLED TODAY TO SEE IF HE COULD SPEAK WITH MR. DOUGLAS. HE HAD JUST COME FROM WASHINGTON AND HAD SPOKEN TO PEOPLE IN THE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU AND IN MR. GARDNER'S OFFICE ABOUT WEATHER CONTROL. THEY SUGGESTED THAT MR. D. MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN INFORMATION HE HAD. HE

MENTIONED THAT HE HAD COME TO N.Y. FOR PURPOSE OF MAKING RAIN BUT HE WOULD BE LEAVING FOR MAINE AGAIN POSSIBLY TOMORROW. HE SAID HE MIGHT WRITE MR. D. IN TUCSON OR CONTACT HIM AT SOME LATER DATE.

[on this stapled addendum to the memo, a handwritten notation follows:]

7/27/54 telegraphed Moïse - suggested that he write LWD a letter

On the surface, the memo looked like a polite kiss-off to Moïse from "Mr. D" - Lew Douglas, but upon further inspection, several points became apparent to me. First, it does establish the basic fact that Reich's people made repeated attempts to establish contact with Lew Douglas. Moïse had been directed to Douglas by Charles Gardner, Jr., who was the Weather Bureau's liaison with the Institute of Atmospheric Physics as well as the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Weather Control. (Reich reprinted a letter from Gardner to Moïse dated March 21, 1955, in *Contact With Space*, when Gardner thanked Moïse and told him "we appreciate being informed of your activities."35). Finally, Douglas sent a telegram to Moïse on July 27, 1955 asking him to write him a letter. Certainly Moïse or Reich would have accepted the invitation, and written that letter to Douglas, and in *Contact* Reich wrote that he and Douglas had a cordial exchange of letters, but never met. Through research at the Douglas archives in Tucson, I was able to determine that Douglas was in and out of the hospital at the time of Reich's stay in Arizona, having developed sciatic nerve problems, as well as having undergone surgery for intestinal cancer that was probably related to his exposure to chemical warfare agents in WWI. He was unable to meet with Reich. Douglas' appointment calendar is completely blank for weeks at a stretch during the whole time Reich was in Tucson because he was in and out of the hospital, undergoing major surgery. (For the

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same reason, Douglas was unable to attend important sessions of the IAP during that time.) No subsequent correspondence can be found in the Douglas archive in Tucson, but it's likely that the archives of the Orgone Institute contain much of it. Wilhelm Reich's archives, held at Harvard University's medical library, are currently closed to researchers. The discovery of the memo from Moïse to Douglas conclusively proves that Reich did in fact, as he claimed in *Contact*, establish friendly communications with high government officials. Beyond that, we can speculate about the ultimate importance of this relationship. So we will.

My friend and fellow researcher, Kenn Thomas, and I have carried on a heated debate over the significance of the proximity of the dates on this "Douglas-Moïse Memo," as I will call it, and the infamous "Cutler-Twining Memo," the only official archival reference to an "MJ-12" group in the National Archives. Kenn, a professional archivist, has held the actual "Cutler-Twining Memo" in his hands at the new archive facility in Arlington, Virginia. Thomas points out that Robert Cutler, who wrote the memo dated July 14, 1954, was formerly an expert in Psychological Operations with the CIA, and that Cutler was deeply involved with the crafting of Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace" initiative. Thomas noted that the date of the "Douglas-Moïse Memo" is ten days before the "Cutler-Twining Memo." In the latter memo, Cutler advised General Nathan Twining, (alleged to be an MJ-12 member) that a previously scheduled meeting of the "Special Studies Project" would be changed to occur "during the already scheduled White House meeting of July 16, rather than following it as previously intended." Something important was up and the President would be there.

Thomas suggests that the timing of this sequence of events might indicate that Douglas, as a member of Eisenhower's

"kitchen cabinet," may have been privy to or associated with the MJ-12 group. I agree that Douglas, one of the most powerful men in American politics at the time, would have known about MJ-12 if it existed. Thomas argues that Douglas, having been briefed about the meeting of MJ-12 members on July 16 at the White House, developed a more serious interest in Reich's planned operations in Tucson on the basis of Reich's observations of UFOs. This would explain the sudden change in attitude on July 27, 1955, when Douglas sent a telegram to Moïse inviting further correspondence. After all, Douglas had hired a "UFO nut," James E. McDonald, to head the IAP in 1954.

But wait a minute, my boggled mind rebels against Thomas' eloquent dagwood sandwich of conspiracy theories. Are the MJ-12 documents themselves for real?

Stanton Friedman, a physicist and well-established UFO writer, has covered the MJ-12 documents in his book, *Top Secret Majic*. One of the objections raised by skeptics was that no other documentary reference could be found to corroborate the existence of any "MJ-12" group, but the "Cutler-Twining Memo" (which has been authenticated by the National Archives) debunks the debunkers on that score. And the content of the memo is consistent with the idea of a highly-classified gathering of wise men in the Oval Office. Both the recipient and the author of the memo were the kind of officials who would be privy to such a meeting.

To say the least, however, the MJ-12 documents have a squirrely provenance. Essentially, they came over the transom to UFO researcher Jaime Shandera. And couldn't the Cutler-Twining Memo have been smuggled into the Archives as a hoax? "When I did the tour of the National Archives," Thomas told me, "they went to great lengths at the research room to explain how it was impossible to sneak anything out,

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The tour guide was dumbfounded by my question about sneaking things in." Perhaps future research will provide answers to the open question as to Douglas' relationship with Reich. It's worth speculating about just to stimulate the discussion.

Wilhelm Reich in Roswell?

Did Wilhelm Reich visit Roswell, New Mexico seven years after the alleged crash of a "flying saucer" in 1947? Pitfalls await researchers interviewing witnesses. They are often elderly and they forget; they are flattered to be interviewed and inflate their own importance in events; they might be crazy liars, for all you know. Sometimes, you'll hear a story that sounds unbelievable, and then through the process of verifying the claim, you learn a serendipitous truth. And so it was, that I rediscovered that Wilhelm Reich passed through Roswell and then spent the night in Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico in 1954 on his way to Tucson, Arizona.

I would have never noticed this simple fact, had I not heard an unlikely story from a man I met in Tucson, Arizona, in 1995. His name is Joe Blankenship, a colorful character who has lived in Tucson since the early forties. He is widely known as an odd-ball, but he is well-liked in Tucson, and something of a local celebrity. His interests range from free energy, alternative medicine, mining, local history, UFOs, architecture, and orgone energy.

Joe told me a great many things that sounded so outlandish, incredible, and unbelievable, that I thought he must be crazy or a liar, but then he offered me proof, or I found some independently. I was never able to catch him in a direct lie. He is an old man with a sharp mind, without formal education. He gets words wrong, makes mistakes. Even when he's telling the truth, it sounds like he's pulling your leg. He's told many researchers that he was in Tucson in 1954, and knew

Reich when he was there. I am not sure, but I tend to believe that he did meet Reich, even if all the details might be sketchy.

Joe probably doesn't sleep more than three or four hours a night, but I could hardly keep up with his frenetic energy as he drove me all over Tucson showing me local landmarks and sharing his knowledge of local history. I was extremely skeptical when Joe Blankenship told me that he and Reich had gone to Roswell to investigate the crash of a "flying saucer." 36

Joe obviously loved a good story and regaled me with one after another. One in particular sounded patently absurd to me. Joe said he had been invited to President Richard Nixon's funeral. Given the national importance of this event, attended by President Bill Clinton and three former US Presidents, and given that Joe had an eighth-grade education, looked every bit the rumpled "desert rat" who had just crawled out of a hole in the ground. Let's just say I had my doubts about this story.

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WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL AND RESEARCHERS WILL BE TAKEN TO HIM BY THE "PRESS" FOR THE FUNERAL.

3/27/98 (HAD BEEN RECENTLY DISCOVERED BY RESEARCHERS) WILL BE IN A. T. BLANK'S RESEARCH AND RESEARCH IN JUNE ONE OF US TO GET. I RECALLED FROM RESEARCHERS THE TEXT THAT HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL. WILL BE TAKEN TO HIM BY THE "PRESS" FOR THE FUNERAL.

Above: the Douglas/Moise memo.

But Joe produced a front-page section from the *New York Times*, with a full-color photo of the man himself. Joe Blankenship hunched under a plastic tarp in the rain, seated in the front row of Richard Nixon's funeral.

Joe explained that he had been friends with Nixon's mother, who hired Joe to physically move her house in Whittier to

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Mount Lemmon in Arizona. Mrs. Nixon had another son who had died of tuberculosis, and Joe said that they talked about Wilhelm Reich and how the orgone accumulator might have helped this lost son. This all seemed preposterous to me. Yet there was the picture of old Joe, in the front row of Nixon's funeral.

To check Joe's story about Reich in Roswell, I talked to Eva Reich. She did not recall anyone named Joe Blankenship, and never remembered her father talking about him, nor any interest on Reich's part in the alleged crash at Roswell. She believed she would have remembered his name, since every morning she attended a meeting of the crew to discuss "order of the day," I pointed out that Joe made no claim of being actively involved, and when I asked her if Reich went out driving he might have spoken with guys like Joe, she said indeed he did. He had a new Chevy Impala and drove around for several hours each morning. I doubt if Joe would have come up in any "order of the day," being a kid of 22 years.

Eva also verified that Reich had an interest in dowsing, something Joe had asserted to me and a fact that is not widely known. She remembered that Reich had an aged dowser come over to Orgonon in Maine and dowsed there. She remembered no dowsers in Arizona, though. Furthermore, she remembers almost no local Tucson resident from that time period, save for one maid. It was Eva's sad duty to fire her because Reich suspected her of stealing the silverware.

She also said that Reich did not tell her everything he was working on. She said that it is entirely possible that Reich may have met Joe Blankenship (who definitely knows and knew everything going on in Tucson, which was a very small city, with a small population, at that time.)

Eva has always said that she still did not fully understand everything Reich was doing in Tucson, and that she was there as a

"soldier." Eva is no social butterfly and never was. But Reich absolutely loved to discuss things with everyday people in the community. He always, throughout his life, had true respect for decent working people (e.g. Tom Ross, who revered Reich) and by the end of his life preferred their company over his highly educated colleagues. Eva says that Reich would often drive around all day, meet local people and discuss everything under the sun. (Joe, on our travels, often spoke to total strangers with easy familiarity. He's an outgoing guy.)

So there is a possibility that Reich took time to drive several hours into the next state to visit Roswell. Since the government had issued at least three different stories about what had happened at Roswell (first reports said specifically a "flying saucer" and later reports said it was a "weather balloon," and recently it purported that the incident could be explained by a crashed test-flight of an experimental aircraft filled with mannequins), Reich may have believed that what happened at Roswell was being treated by the USAF as a war-time military secret. This would be completely consistent with Reich's own attitude toward the UFO phenomena, and it would have been natural for him to be silent on what, if anything, he learned of the crash at Roswell.

I would have never printed Blankenship's comments had I not first discovered, by studying *Contact With Space*, that Reich was indeed in Roswell over the course of his journey to Tucson. In fact, he says clearly that he spent the night in Ruidoso, NM. After passing through Roswell, it's along the only road to Tucson from the East. Reich reported, "Although it was very hot as we neared Roswell, New Mexico, no OR flow was visible on the road, which should have been shimmering with 'heatwaves'. Instead, DOR was well marked to the west against purplish, black, barren mountains, in the sky as a blinding grayness,

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and over the horizon as a grayish layer. The caking of formerly good soil was progressively characteristic and eventually the caked soil prevailed over the vegetation, which now consisted only of scattered low bushes, while grass disappeared."

"After the desert valley it was a relief to spend a night in Ruidoso, New Mexico, in the Sierra Blanca Mountains (near 7,000 feet). Here a strong, reactive secondary vegetation had sprung up, again more marked on the western slopes." 37

Therefore nobody can say that Reich was never in Roswell. Moreover, Ruidoso is much nearer to the alleged crash site at a ranch near Corona, NM. Since he spent the night there, and he always liked to mingle with people, he may have picked up the story. Because the government, we now know, put out a "cover story" about what happened, perhaps he assumed that the government was treating the event as a national security issue, which exactly how Reich believed the UFO crisis should be handled - as a war-time emergency.

Did the local Roswell-Ruidoso populace have any knowledge of what happened? Stanton Friedman has published many interviews with local residents, so it's clear that many people there did know something about whatever went on. 38

So, taking all the facts I have into account, I think it is an intriguing possibility, but an unlikely one. In some ways, it makes perfect sense. Yet I have no direct evidence, other than Joe's testimony, Reich's physical presence in Roswell, the wide publicity the event received, to prove the story.

One thing is certain: if Joe had not told me that story, I would have never looked into it and discovered that Reich passed right through Roswell. A delicious irony, if nothing else.

Joe Blankenship helped me understand the basic background of Tucson. He definitely knows that town's history, its

famous citizens (personally) and the military-industrial interests operating there during the Cold War. On these matters, I credit Joe with an extremely high degree of reliability, since I was able to cross-check his information with other sources.

Wilhelm Reich and the Cold War

By Jim Martin

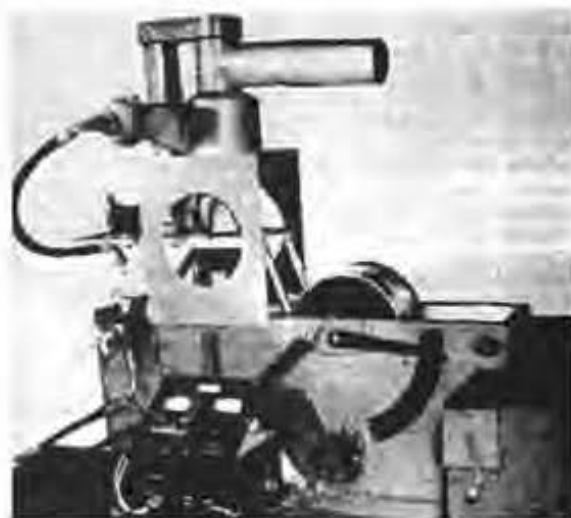
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Dialogue In Hell, Part Two

by Len Bracken

Hell doesn't exist but somehow it's easier for many to imagine hellish pain rather than enjoy earthly pleasures. This makes the devil's cave a good setting for part two of this satire-- begun in Steamshovel Press #19-- particularly when the men in dialogue inflicted pain on others. Humor that enlightens ensures that pleasure wins at least one small victory in the struggle with its unitary opposite. For those interested in more on dialectical hedonism, a 69-page pamphlet on the subject is now available for six dollars postpaid. Len Bracken, POB 5585 Arlington, VA 22205.

Koppel

Welcome back. Explain for me, if you will, Mr. McVeigh, what you mean by the strategy of tension.

McVeigh

Ah, Mr. Koppel, you are such a master of the naïve style. You pretend to be fascinated by something you know a great deal about and the public is fascinated with you, with what they misperceive is the justice with which your gestures, tone and choice of words complement each other. Tell me this: Do you want the long answer or the short answer?

Koppel

The short one will do.

McVeigh

I'm not sure it will. How should I begin? Perhaps by discrediting a recent book by a Harvard-educated Ph.D., Entangled in Terror by Anna Giefman, that tries to rehabilitate one of the czar's provocateurs, the legendary Azef, with slippery arguments such as all spies and infiltrators were called provocateurs. The professor admits and then conveniently discounts the fact that this Okhrana agent committed what you would

call terrorist acts. We can only speculate on the man's motives because it's impossible to believe anyone involved in the affair. But I wouldn't discredit Boris Savinkov's memoirs as easily as Geifman -- he had first hand knowledge and he was shown more evidence later. All I ask you to do is ask if the Okhrana conspired with bombers to justify its shakedowns. The Okhrana's motive was simple -- it would make it look like the Okhrana was needed more than ever to restore law and order, all of which Geifman readily concedes.

Koppel

You seem to be suggesting, if I understand you correctly, an analogy with the way the antiterrorism legislation that gave new powers to the federal government was enacted in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing.

McVeigh

I rest a little easier, despite all of the ugliness I've seen, knowing that someone like you could understand, take note, and even mention it yourself. That really shows respect for a fallen enemy like me. I appreciate that and I appreciate the right to defend myself. I might even go so far as to say that you're out of step with your epoch by being so generous to me, except that you're always still there, still standing when so many others bake in this desert.

Koppel

Standing? Actually sitting, and not so far from you. You should tell the New York Post about it, some wag called me the "pint-sized, combed-over interview king." Those comments do little for my standing.

McVeigh

Nonsense, with those shoulders and that head, you remind me of a Greek bust, say Demosthenes, only cast in iron. What's more, you have beautiful talents and a handsome character. You're the one who's ready for anything, any time of night. Maybe we'll have to ask your wife about the anytime part.

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The key is that you know how to play the game, how to be patient, how to dissimulate your goals, how strike at the right moment and immolate someone like me without the least bit of pity.

Koppel

You're right. We wouldn't be here if we had scruples. Speaking of scruples, I find it hard to believe that people in the US government would be so lacking in scruples that they would resort to the tactics you describe – perpetrating terrorism while pretending to be against it.

McVeigh

Why should you be surprised? We know what the experts say about the Reichstag fire in February 1933 - pure Nazi provocation. Hitler used the incident to force President Hindenburg's hand in issuing a decree suspending most civil and political liberties. The Dutch communist who was erroneously blamed for this false-flag operation was tried and executed. Nazis swept the elections. Surprised? That's right, you were one of the many people duped by Claire Sterling and others into thinking that all the Italian Red Brigade members were who they said they were, with no connections to the CIA, Italian military intelligence and the P2 masonic lodge. If Vice President Bush told you things like that, don't believe him, he spent the week of Reagan's first inauguration with Lucio Gelli, the P2's master conspirator.

Koppel

George Bush, to the best of my knowledge, isn't a Mason.

McVeigh

No, but he's a Skull and Bones fascist who had second-world-war-era fascists and vocal fascist sympathizers on his transition team. The infamous Order of Skull and Bones that emanates from Yale and infiltrates the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) maintains ties with another Anglo-American semisecret society, the Group. If you doubt the power of

secret societies, you might do well to research the power of Bones men since the inception of the Order in 1833. What a gruesome image it is, the world being spun by black-hooded brothers. The Group, founded at Oxford University, rests on the more festive image of a round table but its goals for Anglo-American world domination overlap with the Order's creation of a New World Order by means of such coercive measures as wars and revolutions. They like to pit sides against each other in a conflict of opposites whose outcome is assured once these WASPs have been brought in to manage the situation. It's Hegelian at its core, very German. In fact Yale denies that Skull and Bones is a chapter of a German secret society, but evidence emerged when the Temple was raided in 1876. You know that in conspiracy theory circles, people like to speculate wildly on something called the Illuminati, Adam Weishaupt's society that recruited students from Ingolstadt University. I can clear this up for you right now, Mr. Koppel, Skull and Bones infected the United States in 1833, at Yale, when future General William Russell brought it back with him from study in Germany, in 1833 like a deadly virus. This was only forty-eight years after the elector of Bavaria abolished the Illuminati sect. Weishaupt's disciples turned what both the Illuminati and Skull and Bones refer to internally as the Order over to Russell. But get this - the Union Banking Corporation of New York City helped finance the Nazi party more than any other overseas bank; six of its eight directors were either Nazis or members of the Order, members like Prescott S. Bush, patriarch of the Bush political clan. The Order shares with Nazis a fetish for occult rituals, like Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, dressed as a skeleton and howling at a Bones initiate in a velvet-lined coffin. The initiate then has a bone with his name on it tossed into the bone heap before plunging naked into a mud pile with other initiates. Now that I've

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had time to think about it, I find it macabre that the ex-head of the CIA with a Skull and Bones pedigree could become president of the United States – especially knowing what we know about the CIA's postwar pact with the devil.

Koppel

Which devil would that be?

McVeigh

The German spymaster Reinhard Gehlen.

Koppel

What does that have to do with Masons?

McVeigh

I don't expect you to know, but since you asked, I guess I'd begin by telling you about the Freemasons on the collaborationist side in Vichy France. The record is there for anyone to see. And after the war, they banded together and took over the financial industry when the resistance thought it was enough to take the government. Who has the upper hand now? The government has uncovered numerous financial scandals involving various lodges.

Koppel

You make a good point – the financial and industrial elite exerts increasing influence on the world, but what are you saying? Is the US ruled by a secret group of Masonic fascists?

McVeigh

I would suggest that the Masonic lodge on 16th Street, the Scottish Rite Temple headquarters for the southern states and NATO, the Mother Council of the World, houses an interesting network of military people and FBI types – a retired admiral runs the place and J. Edgar Hoover's FBI office is recreated in the basement. Do I need to state the obvious about J. Edgar Hoover?

Koppel

I suppose you do.

McVeigh

Aside from the fact that his undercover FBI agents accounted for more Klansmen than nonagents – I was one so I should know – and kept what was a dying hate group alive, I'll

tell you what more about Hoover. You won't hear about it in his Who's Who listing, but he was very close to Werner Magnus Maximilian von Braun, the Nazi rocket scientist. They became so close that they managed the Defense Industrial Security Command together. DISC? That is precisely where the Torbitt document places the blame for the JFK assassination. And knowing what we know about DISC, I think it's fair to ask How many members of the FBI's infamous Division Five are Masons?

Koppel

How many?

McVeigh

You would be surprised. But you wouldn't be surprised to know that future president Bush played a role, albeit minor, in this episode – the FBI memo regarding his contacts with anti-Castro Cubans in Miami at the time of the assassination hasn't been plausibly denied, yet you and other media darlings act as if it didn't exist. You ignore Stephen Dorril when he quotes, in *M16: Fifty Years of Special Operations*, Lady Park, the secret intelligence service's station chief in Hanoi during the Vietnam War when she says that the most successful ploy was to "set people very discreetly against one another. They destroy each other. You don't destroy them." With this admission and smoking guns implicating the CIA and US Naval Intelligence in the bank bombing at Milan's Piazza Fontana on December 12, 1969 – a bombing that killed sixteen people and announced the strategy of tension – with all of the confessions and evidence, how can you ask me the questions you ask? You know what we did, we used indiscriminate bomb attacks against the public to destabilize Italy and reduce electoral support for the Communist Party. According to at least one reliable researcher, a CIA operative was responsible for the assassination of Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

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EYEWASH About Argo

The Jack Kirby Conspiracy

by James Romberger and Marguerite Van Cook

The tangled web of intrigue surrounding *The Lord of Light* project, involving the great comic book artist Jack Kirby, took serious effort to unravel; it's hard to get an accurate timeline of the events as they happened since some of them were deliberately obscured as they happened. It is sometimes unclear how many people know how much information but here we managed to uncover the following:

When Barry Ira Geller acquired the rights to Roger Zelazny's Hugo Award-winning science fiction novel *Lord of Light* in 1977-78, he became full of enthusiasm for his new project. He wrote a treatment, and contacted Jack Kirby--creator of the most known characters in comics in the 1960s, including *Captain America*, *Spiderman*, *X-Men* and the *Hulk*, many of whom still now engage the popular imagination in blockbuster Hollywood productions--in 1978 to do the drawings for the movie sets. The drawings Kirby completed mix Hindu and Aztec motifs with the artist's trademark techno-cosmic machines and energy pyrotechnics to give the impression of architectural renderings done by an acid-damaged genius. In the history of comic art Jack Kirby's imagination was unmatched. This project gave him the opportunity to design his heart out. No one who has seen the *Lords of Light* drawings can deny their awesome power. One graces the cover of this issue of *Steamshovel Press*.

In November 1979 *Variety* and the *Hollywood Reporter* printed articles about Barry's project. They reported that entities in Las Vegas and banks in Canada and New York were involved in raising what seems to range anywhere (depending on the source)

from 50 to 450 million dollars for the movie and for getting between 400 to 1,000 acres of land in Colorado for the movie sets. The sets would be permanent and function as a theme park, "Science Fiction Land."

In 1980, *Prevue* reported that a scandal about the real estate deal involving the Denver, Colorado Planning Commission; and questions about Jerry Schafer, a *Lord of Light* co-producer and director of the cult movies *Fists of Steel* and *Like it Is*, were being resolved, and that the project was ongoing. Barry Geller was cleared of any charges, and in an interview at the time seems still optimistic if not a little wary about the project. Then nothing more about the project for 16 years until a Jack Kirby fan magazine, *Kirby Collector*, interviewed Geller in 1996.

The introduction to that interview says that members of the Commission and Schafer were convicted, and Geller states, "I...had assigned responsibility to certain people...who forged my signature, and were bilking other people out of money, and I didn't know about it...they were looking at doing all of these land deals around the land that I had optioned...it took about a year to straighten it out afterwards...the government stopped everything...it had the attention of many, many people, and it was just unfortunate."



Above: "The Six" the American diplomats after their narrow escape.

On November 4th, 1979, fifty two Americans were taken hostage at the U.S.

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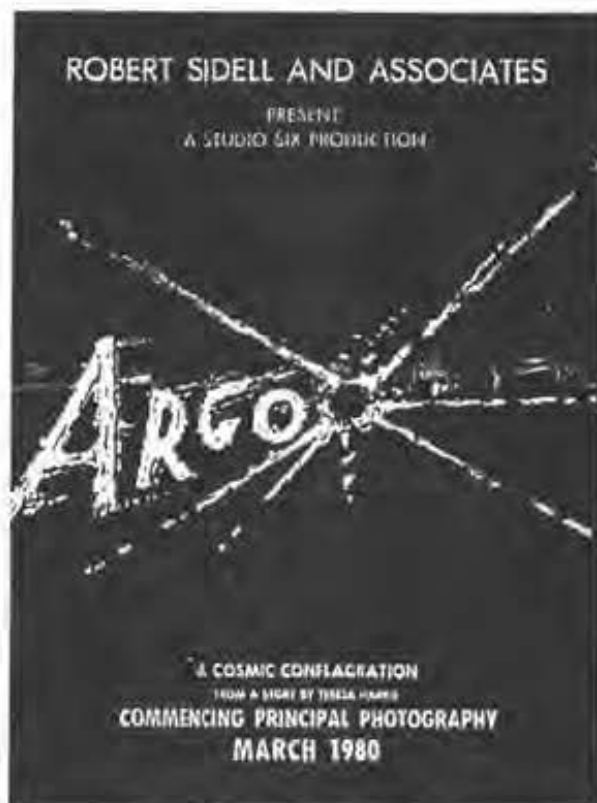
Embassy in Tehran, Iran, by Islamic fundamentalists. President Jimmy Carter froze \$12 Billion of Iranian assets in U.S. banks, and started diplomatic negotiations for the hostages' release. Other Americans were trapped behind lines, some in the Canadian Embassy. Trying to resolve the situation and preserve the lives of the hostages, Carter initiated many covert operations to get remaining American citizens, members of our press, and other agents out of Iran.

One of these scenarios came to light when in 1997, as part of the CIA's fiftieth anniversary, the agency held a ceremony to honor secret agent and "artist/validator" Antonio Mendez--in his own words "someone who could make a radio out of a clamshell"--and revealed one of the successful missions in which he had participated: during the Iran crisis in 1979, six American diplomats had escaped to the Canadian embassy in Tehran. "Those from the consulate had escaped out the back door to the street when the militants had been breaking down the front door", Mendez says. In order to "exfiltrate" them out of Iran an elaborate plot was hatched by CIA master actor and document forger Mendez involving fake passports, hi-tech makeup, and a film production crew scouting for locations.

In December 1979 Mendez gathered his team and started "Studio Six Productions". The plan was to disguise "the six" as Hollywood types and whisk them out of the country. Mendez's crew included "Jerome Calloway" aka John Chambers, Oscar-winning makeup artist for *Planet of the Apes*, husband/wife team Andrea and Bob Sidell, known for *The Osterman Weekend* and *ET*, and Tom Burman, later known for the makeup in *Cat People*, *Howard the Duck*, and *X-Files*. (*Steamshovel* debris: Burman has stated that Chambers created the Bigfoot suit from the famous Patterson film).

According to Mendez, they had decided the plot of the imaginary film had to be extremely exotic, eastern-flavored sci-fi,

"with something about the glory of Islam". Ads were placed in *The Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety* for the production, to be called *Argo*. The title was derived from "a profane 'knock-knock' joke" told by Chambers. Mendez says, "Jerome and his associates were masters at working the Hollywood system. They had begun applying 'grease' and calling in favors even before I arrived."



Above: Mendez' poster for "the film". Copyright, the CIA.

In the ensuing media flurry they "let it be known that we had Canadian scouts in Tehran, checking out film locations". The "Studio Six" office was "swamped" by script submissions, including Barry's proposal and one from Steven Spielberg. On the WGBH video Mendez states, "We stole the script from the *Lords of Light*, which was a defunct production." About Barry's script, Mendez commented to A.P., "If anyone sat down to read this, they'd have to believe that

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if we were crazy enough to write this script, we'd be crazy enough to be looking for locations in a place like Iran".

On the CIA website Mendez wrote, "This script fit our purposes beautifully...the producers had also envisioned building a huge set that would later become a major theme park. They had hired a famous comic-strip artist to prepare concepts for the sets. This gave us some good 'eyewash' to add to a production portfolio." The script was credited to "Theresa Harris", the name one of the diplomats was to have. In the following weeks, the team worked furiously on the disguises and documents; Chambers had advised Mendez that an advance party for a film production would comprise eight people, so on January 25th 1980, Tony Mendez, in the identity of an Irish producer, and another agent arrived in Iran. The Canadian embassy staff was ready for action, including the "Sledge", a character seemingly out of a Jack Kirby comic book, a "burly French-Canadian who earned the nickname...during those final days because he was destroying classified communications equipment with a 12-pound sledgehammer." Then they met "the six", who were the head of the American embassy's Consular section, with two young couples who worked for him, and the agricultural attaché.

"I explained what had to be accomplished in the next two days...I instructed the six to go into the dining room to discuss among themselves whether they wanted to go to the airport in a group or as individuals... I waited about 15 minutes and then walked in...they were debating the questions and I distracted them by doing a bit of sleight-of-hand with two sugar cubes...to illustrate how to set up a deception operation...the six decided to go as a group, using the Studio Six cover."

For two days the diplomats worked on their new identities, and then Mendez received the word from Washington that all

systems were go: "See you later, exfiltrator." The final night the six served a "sumptuous seven-course dinner with fine wine, coffee, and liqueurs. I told them about Jerome and the Argo knock-knock joke. Everyone took up the Argo cry."

On January 27th, in an anticlimactic finale, Mendez walked the diplomats through the airport: "I was armed with the Argo portfolio and would overwhelm anyone standing in the way with Hollywood talk. The Iranian official at the checkpoint could not have cared less." The Canadian government received all the credit for the escape.

Later, Mendez met with Jimmy Carter and "showed the President some of the cover materials used in the operation and told him of the Argo/Argau story", but because of indecision regarding the still-undercover agent being photographed with the President, the meeting was cut short. Mendez received a promotion and the CIA's Intelligence Star award, and John Chambers was awarded the CIA's Intelligence Medal of Merit. Chambers died in 2001.

For Mendez and company, the art of Jack Kirby greatly added to the credibility of their cover story, and their confidence in pulling it off, regardless of whether the Iranians ever saw the drawings. An important question remains, however: could Barry Geller have been a victim of a fraudulent "acceleration" of his project, only to be discarded when he was no longer of any use?

We were able to speak to Disney artist and well-known inker of Jack Kirby's pencils Mike Royer, who said he had done the inking work for Kirby for *Lords of Light*, but had not received a "Media Kit" or copies of the drawings. At some point in the last few years he had seen the *Lord of Light* web site created by and contacted him. Geller offered to sell him some prints at a discount, but Royer declined to buy his own work. When told about the "Argo" scenario, Royer said, "That sounds like bullshit."

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Above: Sam, or Mahasamatman, the *Lord of Light*, from the WGBH/ Boston documentary *First Person* copyright Barry Ira Geller

Royer told us that he was a fan of *X-Files*, so we mentioned that Tom Burman did the makeup for that show, and asked if he knew of him or his associates though Disney. but Royer said he hadn't started there until 1981. After we sent him links to the CIA site, he wrote us, "I found the CIA article interesting. Might make a cool TV movie, but of course they'll have to fill it with shootouts and bombs going off and two or three half-naked babes to make it appeal to U.S. TV executives."

Jack Kirby died in 1994, and his wife Roz passed on in 1998, so we contacted the estate. Kirby biographer Ray Wyman, Jr. confirmed that Geller was a close Kirby family friend, and had the copyright to the *Lord of Light* drawings. In reference to the CIA plot, he said, "Actually, I recall that story. After Barry told it to Roz, she went to me and others for our opinions...I recall John Chambers' name being bandied about- perhaps in association with this CIA fable...what bunk." After he read the article on the CIA site he wrote, "That's how Roz recounted Barry's version of the story...how would Barry have known that the CIA was involved since the thing wasn't revealed until 1997? By the way, I recall seeing that "Argo" poster- probably at the Kirby home in one of the closets".

After seeing a documentary by WGBH-Boston video on Mendez with the color Kirby/Royer art, Wyman wrote, "Love

(Mendez's) last line- 'What happens at the end of *Lord of Light*?'- 'I don't know, I didn't have time to read it'- egad, I hope nobody does that to one of my scripts. Creepy, but really something else."



Above: more from the WGBH documentary.

Wyman added, "Another colorful character that circulated around the Kirby household...claimed that the CIA was inspired by one of Jack's drawings, "Jacob and the Angel"...(he) said the CIA had built a prototype flying pack based upon Jack's design. The problem was that only close friends and visitors ever saw the drawing...(he said) the CIA had also built a robot that could tell friend from foe just by looking at you. Jack thought it was a great story idea- made up a name for it: "The EYE of the C-EYE-A". Yup...I hear the howling all the way over here. Roz and Jack heard a bunch of them...they were always personable, generous, and gracious- no matter how nutty a story you weaved."

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Jim Keith

Excerpt from the new edition of
The Octopus
by Kenn Thomas

Jim Keith sits at the Reno bar, drinking Coronas with lime served by his friend, the bartender Seth Jameson. He does this often, some nights meeting with a person Seth knows as Keith's Sufi contact.

Seth knows Keith well (1); he knows little of the Sufis. Sufism has origins in the early Islam of the desert nomads, although the Sufi Order of the West was founded in London in 1910 for the "transmission of spiritual truth in a manner that is consistent with modern, Western culture." (2) For years Jim Keith has collected obscure bits of information for various zines (3) and books that feature his writing. Unlike Danny Casolaro, whose story had captured enough of Keith's attention that he helped piece together a book on Casolaro's life, Keith does not operate in total obscurity. He is well-known, in fact, practically a celebrity in the world of marginals publishing. He lectures regularly at conspiracy and UFO conferences and has several acclaimed titles to his credit (4). Keith has been regaling conspiracy theorists for many years. He is well-pleased that he has found such an obscure source, and one from a mysterious, religious/mystical background. He has second a column due for a new online newsletter called *Nitro News*. What he has been getting from this Sufi source would fit there perfectly.

In the dark comfort of a booth at the bar, Keith's Sufi friend tells him of returning from a trip to London for *Dhikr*, a celebration of Allah that often involves ecstatic trance states. The source tells Keith that the ceremony was attended by the personal

physician of Dodi Fayed, who died with Diana on the fateful day of the Pont D'Alma tunnel crash. The doctor, a non-Sufi Muslim, privately reveals a great secret to the source: Diana was pregnant when she died. He, the doctor, personally had made the examination and verified the pregnancy.

"Wow," says Keith, thinking again that this was just the thing to follow up on the *Nitro News* column he did about possible conspiracy in the plane crash that killed JFK, Jr. "What is that physician's name?" Maybe Keith could get two columns out of this, one asserting the idea of the pregnancy, another giving the name of the physician. *Nitro News* has been slow in paying, so he wants to stretch out the writing the chores. The Sufi provided him with the name after another assurance that his own name would be kept anonymous.

Perhaps Keith thinks of Casolaro as he parts company with the Sufi and determines to go home and knock out that column. Home these days is a trailer outside of Reno. Keith returns to it, sits in front of his computer, digs out his newspaper clippings and print-outs on Diana, collects together the notes he has been making about all the Sufis had been telling him, including this last revelation, and begins to write:

"PRINCESS DIANA WAS PREGNANT; FAYED'S
PHYSICIAN EXAMINED HER

Recent French findings have not put to rest the suspicion that a conspiracy was responsible for the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, millionaire Dodi Fayed, and driver, Henri Paul, in Paris on August 31, 1997. The case for conspiracy is familiar enough to those who delve into the hidden side of world politics.

Diana had crossed the reigning House of Windsor, and had taken on the color of an enemy to the throne of Great Britain. Born of competing Stuart Royal line, she had been a thorn in the side of the British Monarchy virtually from the beginning of her marriage to Prince Charles. She was far more popular

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than the aloof Charles, and a perception of unfair treatment by the Royal Family only added to already numerous calls for the abolition of the Monarchy.

It is fair to think that the House of Windsor may have seen Diana as becoming dangerously powerful, and as a threat to its future. She was also viewed as a threat to other elements of the British establishment, including the arms industry, whose lucrative business in death was challenged by her calls for an international ban on land mines. Diana had already been targeted with surveillance and wiretaps by Britain's domestic intelligence agency, MI5, and through the leaking of her private conversations to the press.

At least two persons close to Diana and Dodi Fayed have told the press that the couple was planning on marrying. They had been dating for nine months, and Dodi's purchase of a quarter million dollar diamond ring for her provided additional confirmation.

The British establishment would have seen a marriage to Dodi Fayed as an alliance with the Muslim world, and there was the real possibility that Diana would convert to the Islamic faith. Equally important, Dodi's father was billionaire Muhammad Fayed, related to the Saudi Royal Family. He is alleged to have compromised many British politicians through the use of his bribes and other incentives."

That pretty much sums it up, Keith thinks. Now for the bombshell:

"Of central importance to the belief that Diana may have been murdered are unconfirmed reports that she was pregnant by Dodi Fayed at the time of her death. Certainly, the birth of a child with Egyptian blood, half-brother to Diana's sons, would have been seen as a devastating event to the rulers of Britain. So far, however, no conclusive proof has been offered that she was pregnant. I have now obtained the closest

thing to proof that will probably ever be revealed.

Confirmation of Diana's pregnancy comes from a unique source: through the network of the Middle Eastern religious group called the Sufis. The Sufis are a meditative, mystical offshoot of the Islamic faith, and several members of this group are friends of the author.

One of my Sufi contacts, who chooses to remain anonymous traveled to London to participate in *Dhikr*, a remembrance of Allah. Both Sufis and orthodox Muslims attended this ritual. My contact reports that while participating in this ceremony, he met Dodi Fayed's personal physician, a man who is a Muslim, but is not a Sufi. In private conversation, the physician told him that Diana and Dodi Fayed had planned on getting married, and that he had personally examined her and determined that she was pregnant.

If this is the case, why has this physician not come forward and told the press? One can only speculate. Perhaps this information is being kept secret as part of a larger indictment when Muhammad Fayed finally weighs in with proof of a conspiracy."

Perfect, thinks Keith, and he gets online and sends the new column off to his editors at *Nitro News*. He has the physician's name on a small slip of paper and pins it to a bulletin board above the computer, for use in his next column. He flips over a card from a Tarot deck on the desk and gets the Hanged Man, symbolic of sacrifice and release. He chuckles and flips another-Death, symbolic of ending, eliminations and inexorable forces. "That's not good," Keith mumbles to himself, then shrugs. The next thing on his agenda is a visit to the Burning Man festival in Black Rock, just north of Reno (5).

The lore of the Burning Man attracts Keith. Larry Harvey, Jerry James and twenty sympaticos started the event by burning an eight-foot stick figure of a man on Baker Beach in San Francisco in June of 1986.

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Harvey did it to purge himself of feelings from a romance gone wrong; the others had their own reasons to create a symbolic break from the past. By now, the stick burning had long been moved to Black Rock and had become a massive 50-foot effigy for over 15,000 heavily dosed revelers. Keith does not have a past to purge, but he does have a reputation as Reno's top party animal to protect and promote. As a top barfly on the Reno scene, especially for his UFO conspiracy talk group at the Planet 9 bar on East Fourth Street, how could he not go? Burning Man now consists of intense mass hedonistic revelry, fireworks and pyrotechnics, thousands of free spirits practicing amateur performance art and drug-abundant celebration.

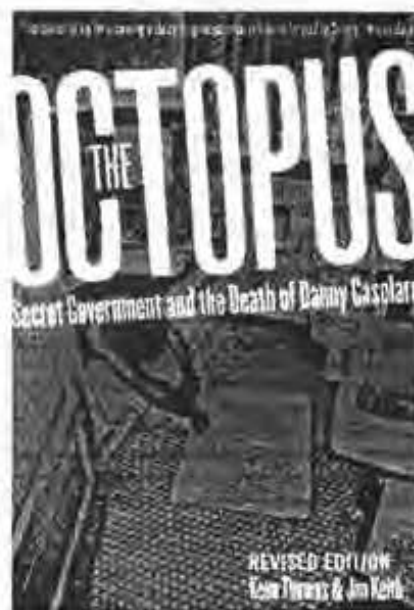
He takes it all in, eventually finding himself on one of the many stages at Burning Man. He staggers around in the party atmosphere, shaking hands, laughing with the rest of the crowd, bumping into people, when he loses balance and falls off the stage. Hard to get up. Impossible, in fact. Others have to help him. Time to turn in, even for the mighty Keith.

Keith's long-time friend, Wayne Henderson, later imagined Keith's situation the following morning:

"He is disheveled; still wearing most of what he was wearing last night (good performance; GREAT party) and the first thing he notices is that he's got a monumental case of dragonmouth, and a headache. Oh, and his leg hurts,

He rises, goes to the bathroom with a cup of strong coffee in his hand and some Led Zeppelin on the stereo. The aspirin starts to kick in, the headache begins to fade. His leg hurts. He gargles, showers. Gets another cup of 40-weight coffee.

He rummages through a pile of papers on his work desk. Book manuscript (GOT to finish that intro) e-mails, articles, letters (got to answer that one from IllumiNet), back



Above: cover of the forthcoming, new edition of *The Octopus*.

issue of *Steamshovel Press* (his leg hurts), more letters, more e-mails (should get online today, *Conspiracy Journal* is due), dog-eared invitation to a party at the Burning Man festival, what was I looking for anyway?

God-all-MIGHTY, what the HELL did I do to my LEG? On the phone, make arrangements to go to the hospital and have a doctor look at this, put a splint on the darned thing, I've got work to do, for Chris sakes..." (6)

The pain is such that Keith calls paramedics, who deliver him to the Washoe Medical Center in Reno. He balks at the idea of anesthetic and surgery, but the Washoe doctors explain that the tibia fracture he suffered at Burning Man requires both. Keith's nephew Chris Davis comes out to be with him at Washoe, and remembering the Tarot cards he flipped after sending out that *Nitro News* column, Keith tells him, "I have a feeling that if they put me under I'm not coming back. I know if I get put under, I am

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going to die." (7) The doctors insist that the surgical procedure is routine.

Then another thing freaks him out: one of the hospital attendants has the same name as someone he debated months ago on MSNBC. The topic had been black helicopters and this person represented the Pentagon in arguing that the choppers just do not exist. (8) Ordinarily Keith likes these kinds of coincidences, they were fodder for his writing. This time it was getting a bit too weird. He calls his old friend from Planet 9, George Pickard, and explains what's going on, and George says he's coming out to Washoe. "I was told that Jim was in room 106, on the first floor," Pickard later reports, "When I checked that room, 106, I found an elderly lady with a completely different name," and complains that a nurse refused to tell him what happened, directing him to an unidentified family spokesperson" for information. (9)

Somewhere between nephew Davis' visit and George Pickard's attempt, Keith assents, very reluctantly, to the anesthetic and the surgery. He dies on the operating table.

On September 7, 1999, a blood clot traveled from Jim Keith's leg to his lung during or shortly after surgery that Washoe Medical Center doctors assured him was routine, and kills him. "There's no conspiracy here," Washoe County deputy coroner Steve Finnell later assures a *Reno Gazette-Journal* reporter, "This could happen to anyone. We see it all of the time. This is considered an accidental death." (10)

A great outpouring of grief at the passing of this celebrity of the conspiracy circuit appeared in the form of several memorial web pages, but none of the comments stated the overriding sentiment at news of Jim Keith's death more succinctly than that of writer Jim Hougan (11):

"A fucking knee operation?"

A debate follows for many months about whether or not to regard Keith's death

with suspicion. The strange coincidence that *Nitro News*, which posted Keith's column about Princess Diana to the web the day before Keith left for Burning Man, went mysteriously offline for two weeks just before the news of Keith's death, fanned the flames of suspicion. Had Keith's demise been orchestrated by the Octopus? Had someone whacked Keith's knee at Burning Man? Did the Pentagon send an assassin to Washoe Medical? As with Danny Casolaro, a proper investigation never happens and most accept deputy coroner Finnell's explanation, as disquieting as it seems to other potential patients in Washoe County.

Keith himself would have noted the coincidences, that he died shortly after writing about Diana's pregnancy, but before he named the physician, and that even that column mysteriously disappeared from the web; that he died prematurely, at age 49, under unusual circumstances; the strange coincidence of the name of that hospital attendant. Death by blood clot in this way is rare, despite the assertions of the deputy coroner. It should not have happened. That it happened to Keith was one more of those bizarre coincidences that leave people scratching their heads, like all of the deaths surrounding Danny Casolaro's research.

Among Keith's professional associates, news of his death hits Ron Bonds the hardest. Bonds runs IllumiNet Press in Lilburn, Georgia. IllumiNet published the majority of Keith's books. Bonds tells one memorial site, "He was more like a partner here. He did all of our proof reading, he typed up stuff for me and we talked on the phone every day! He was like a consultant. It'll be a real drag to keep on without his help and input." (12) Keith's death takes a large toll on Bonds and IllumiNet. Although he continues to publish--he still had at least three of the prolific Keith's manuscripts on hand (13)--he and his wife begin making plans more and more to move into the real estate business,

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Bonds began IllumiNet after a brief career as a record producer and promoter for a Label called *Elvis On Drugs*, and at one point he started a church called the Church of Beaver Cleaver. A perverse sense of humor and a southern charm characterizes everything that Bonds does. One of his early discoveries as a publisher was Kerry Thornley, the Marine corps chum of Lee Harvey Oswald. Bonds had published *The Idle Warriors*, a novel Thornley wrote about Oswald long before the assassination; and *The Principia Discordia*, a Monty Pythonesque lampoon of religion. Bonds also reprinted *The Mothman Prophecies*, a classic work of UFO literature by the writer John Keel, which of late had been sold as a Hollywood movie, but even in death, Jim Keith is his top-seller as well as his close friend. (13)

Bonds carries on half-heartedly for many more months. Then, on April 7, 2001, he and his wife Nancy go to lunch at an El Azteca restaurant near their home in Lilburn, Georgia. Later that night, at about 9PM, Bonds heads to the bathroom following an attack of nausea. For the next six hours, his condition worsens, with diarrhea and vomiting, and he asks Nancy to call an ambulance before he collapses on the floor of the bathroom. He is unconscious when the ambulance arrives. It takes him to Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta because it has a better trauma unit than nearby DeKalb General. Medical personnel insert tubes through his mouth and nose and into his lungs and intestines but nothing stops the swelling in massive bleeding in his stomach and colon. On April 8, at 5:30 AM Ron Bonds dies from the bleeding at age 48. (14)

After an autopsy the following day, the Fulton county coroner, Dr. Henninger, determines that the bacteria *clostridium perfringens* caused the swelling, and that it came from contaminated food he ate at the El Azteca. Health inspectors are called out and

they discover that the beef served at El Azteca contained bacteria in excess of what could be considered harmful to health, although an acceptable level for many people. Reactions to *clostridium perfringens* vary greatly among individuals and Bonds had suffered from chronic gastritis. Through credit card receipts, the health inspectors tracked down 118 El Azteca customers from that day. Only seven had diarrhea in the period following their consumption of food at the restaurant, five had cramps and three vomited. A 1999 study by the Centers for Disease Control indicated that a fatal reaction to *clostridium perfringens* food poisoning occurs in .0005 percent of cases. (15)

The last book Bonds published by Jim Keith is *Binwarfare In America*, which among other things discusses targeted biotoxins.

NOTES:

1. Jameson, Seth. E-mail correspondence with author, August 15, 2001.
2. Bowker, John, ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of World Religions*, Oxford University Press, 1997, p. 925.
3. Jim Keith's work as a writer for small circulation zines included *Dharma Combat*, published by Keith himself. Typically, one issue of *Dharma Combat* ("a magazine about spirituality, metaphysics and reality" according to its indicia) consisted of 8.5x11 sheets of brightly colored paper, folded in half and side-stapled. The following issue would be printed on several sheets of 11x17 paper, stapled in an upper corner, with a "Permanent Universal Rent Strike" poster as a back cover. Article titles included "Around Again To Armageddon," "Sympathy for the Rebel," "The Dulce Base", "Operation Majority", "Demolish Serious Culture", and "Hallucinogenic Hypno-Vision and the Plasmatic Cells of Gaia". Although Keith's zine world of the late 1980s and early 1990s foreshadowed the conspiracy theorist internet free-for-fall, it had the imprimatur of his unique personality. It also included many well-known personalities of the ongoing info underground, such as G. J. Krupay, William Cooper,

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X. Sharks Despot, Wayne Henderson and Len Bracken.

4. Keith graduated from zines to books, eventually producing many well-known titles highly regarded by readers of conspiracy and parapolitical literature. They include *The Gemstone File* (IllumiNet, 1992); *Black Helicopters, Strikeforce for the New World Order* (IllumiNet, 1994); its sequel, *Black Helicopters II: The Men In Black* (IllumiNet, 1997); *OK Bomb: Conspiracy and Cover-Up* (IllumiNet, 1996); *Mind Control-World Control* (Adventures Unlimited Press, 1997); *Secret and Suppressed* (Feral House, August 1993); *Casebook on Alternative Three* (IllumiNet, 1997); *Saucers of the Illuminati, Mass Control: Engineering Human Consciousness* (IllumiNet, 2000); and *Biowarefare In America* (IllumiNet, 2001). Keith also co-authored the first edition of *The Octopus: Secret Government and the Death of Danny Casolaro*, published by Feral House in 1996.

5. *Bad Day At Black Rock* is a famous Spencer Tracy movie released in 1955. Wilhelm Reich called it one of his favorites, in fact, and Keith was great admirer of Reich. Movie reviewers have identified the location of the town of Black Rock in that movie as Arizona, California, and "remotely western". The movie includes a character named Reno Smith, however, and it seems likely that it took place in the same town as the Burning Man festival.

6. Henderson, Wayne, "Dimly Visible Through a Fog of Evasions," *Steamshovel Press* #17, 2000, p. 53.

7. Yankin, Jonathan, "Jim Keith: Gone But Not Forgotten," *Conspiracy Currents Number 24, Conspire.Com*, October 22, 1999.

8. Pickard, George, *Erskine Overnight* radio program, September 30, 1999.

9. Pickard, George, from a no-longer extant memorial web page for Jim Keith.

10. Damon, Anjeanette, "Rumors Abound in Death of Conspiracy Theorist," *Reno Gazette-Journal*, September 28, 1999.

11. Hougans' books include *Spooks: The Haunting of America-The Private Use of Secret Agents* (William Morrow, 1978); *Secret Agenda, Watergate, Deep Throat and the CIA* (Random House, 1984); and *Kingdom Come, A Novel of Conspiracy* (Ballantine, 2000).

12. Ron Bonds on the *Steamshovel Press* memorial website for Jim Keith, 2000.

13. Powell, Kay, "Ronald Bonds, 48, published conspiracies," Georgia newspaper, April 11, 2001.

14. Comments by Ron Bonds' widow, Nancy Kratzer, to author, August 2001.

15. Shalhoup, Mara, "Widow sues restaurant: Rarely fatal bacteria contributed to diner's death," *Creative Loafing*, Atlanta, Georgia, August 2001.



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The Jesus Forgery: *Josephus Untangled* by Acharya S

When addressing the mythical nature of Jesus Christ, one issue repeatedly raised is the purported "evidence" of his existence to be found in the writings of Flavius Josephus, the famed Jewish general and historian who lived from about 37 to 100 CE. In Josephus's *Antiquities of the Jews* appears the notorious passage regarding Christ called the "Testimonium Flavianum" ("TF"):

"Now, there was about this time, Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works,—a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day." (Whitson, 379)

This surprisingly brief and simplistic passage constitutes the "best proof" of Jesus's existence in the entire ancient non-Christian library comprising the works of dozens of historians, writers, philosophers, politicians and others who never mentioned the great sage and wonderworker Jesus Christ, even though they lived contemporaneously with or shortly after the Christian savior's purported advent.

A False Witness

Despite the best wishes of sincere believers and the erroneous claims of truculent apologists, the Testimonium Flavianum has been demonstrated continually over the centuries to be a forgery, likely interpolated by Catholic Church historian Eusebius in the fourth century. So thorough and universal has been this debunking that very few scholars of repute continued to cite the passage after the turn of the 19th century. Indeed, the TF was rarely mentioned, except to note that it was a forgery, and numerous books by a variety of authorities over a period of 200 or so years basically took it for granted that the Testimonium Flavianum *in its entirety* was spurious, an interpolation and a forgery. As Dr. Gordon Stein relates:

"...the vast majority of scholars since the early 1800s have said that this quotation is not by Josephus, but rather is a later Christian insertion in his works. In other words, it is a forgery, rejected by scholars."

So well understood was this fact of forgery that these numerous authorities did not spend their precious time and space rehashing the arguments against the TF's authenticity. Nevertheless, in the past few decades apologists of questionable integrity and credibility have glommed onto the TF, because this short and dubious passage represents the most "concrete" secular, non-biblical reference to *a man who purportedly shook up the world*. In spite of the past debunking, the debate is *currently* confined to those who think the TF was original to Josephus but was Christianized, and those who credulously and self-servingly accept it as "genuine" in its entirety.

To repeat—and I will be repetitious, because this spurious Josephus claim needs to be put to rest once and for all—this passage was so completely dissected by scholars of high repute and standing—the *majority of them pious Christians*—that it was for decades

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understood by subsequent scholars as having been proved *in toto* a forgery, such that these succeeding scholars did not even mention it, unless to acknowledge it as false. (In addition to being repetitious, I will also provide *numerous quotes*, because a strong show of rational consensus is desperately needed when it comes to matters of blind, unscientific and irrational faith.) The scholars who so conclusively proved the TF a forgery made their mark at the end of the 18th century and into the 20th, when a sudden reversal was implemented, with popular opinion hemming and hawing its way back first to the "partial interpolation theory" and in recent times, among the third-rate apologists, to the notion that the whole TF is "genuine." As Earl Doherty says, in "Josephus Unbound":

"Now, it is a curious fact that older generations of scholars had no trouble dismissing this entire passage as a Christian construction. Charles Guignebert, for example, in his *Jesus* (1956, p.17), calls it 'a pure Christian forgery.' Before him, Lardner, Harnack and Schurer, along with others, declared it entirely spurious. Today, most serious scholars have decided the passage is a mix: original parts rubbing shoulders with later Christian additions."

The earlier scholarship that *proved* the entire TF to be fraudulent was determined by intense scrutiny by some of the most erudite, and mainly *Christian*, writers of the time, in a number of countries, their works written in a variety of languages, but particularly German, French and English. Their general conclusions, as elucidated by Christian authority Dr. Lardner, and related here by the author of *Christian Mythology Unveiled* (c. 1842), include the following reasons for doubting the authenticity of the TF *as a whole*:

"Mattathias, the father of Josephus, must have been a witness to the miracles which are said to have been performed by Jesus, and Josephus was born within two

years after the crucifixion, yet in all the works he says nothing whatever about the life or death of Jesus Christ; *as for the interpolated passage it is now universally acknowledged to be a forgery*. The arguments of the 'Christian Ajax,' even Lardner himself, against it are these: 'It was never quoted by any of our Christian ancestors *before Eusebius*. It disturbs the narrative. The language is quite Christian. It is not quoted by Chrysostom, though he often refers to Josephus, and could not have omitted quoting it *had it been then in the text*. It is not quoted by Photius [9th century], though he has three articles concerning Josephus; and this author expressly states that this historian has not taken the least notice of Christ. Neither Justin Martyr, in his dialogue with Trypho the Jew; nor Clemens Alexandrinus, who made so many extracts from ancient authors; nor Origen against Celsus, have ever mentioned this testimony. But, on the contrary, in chap. 25th of the first book of that work, Origen openly affirms that Josephus, who had mentioned John the Baptist, *did not acknowledge Christ*. That this passage is a false fabrication is admitted by Ittigius, Blondel, Le Clerc, Vandale, Bishop Warburton, and Tanaquil Faber.'" (CMU, 47)

Hence, by the 1840's, when the anonymous author of *Christian Mythology Unveiled* wrote, the Testimonium Flavianum was already "universally acknowledged to be a forgery."

The pertinent remarks by the highly significant Church father Origen (c. 185-c.254) appear in his *Contra Celsus*, Book I, Chapter XLVII.

"For in the 18th book of his Antiquities of the Jews, Josephus bears witness to John as having been a Baptist, and as promising purification to those who underwent the rite. Now this writer, *although not believing in Jesus as the Christ*, in seeking after the cause of the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple,

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whereas he ought to have said that the conspiracy against Jesus was the cause of these calamities befalling the people, since they put to death Christ, who was a prophet, says nevertheless--being, although against his will, not far from the truth--that these disasters happened to the Jews as a punishment for the death of James the Just, who was a brother of Jesus (called Christ)--the Jews having put him to death, although he was a man most distinguished for his justice..." (Emphasis added)

Here, in Origen's words, is the assertion that Josephus, *who discusses more than a dozen Jesuses*, did not consider any of them to be "the Christ." This fact *proves* that the same phrase in the TF is spurious. Furthermore, Origen does not even intimate the presence of the rest of the TF. Concerning Origen and the TF, Arthur Drews relates in *Witnesses to the Historicity of Jesus*:

"In the edition of Origen published by the Benedictines it is said that *there was no mention of Jesus at all in Josephus before the time of Eusebius* [c. 300 CE]. Moreover, in the sixteenth century Vossius had a manuscript of the text of Josephus in which there was not a word about Jesus. It seems, therefore, that the passage must have been an interpolation, whether it was subsequently modified or not." (Drews, 9; *emph. added*)

According to the author of *Christian Mythology Unveiled* ("CMU"), this Vossius mentioned by a number of writers as having possessed a copy of Josephus's *Antiquities* lacking the TF is "I. Vossius," whose works appeared in Latin. Unfortunately, none of these writers includes a citation as to where exactly the assertion may be found in Vossius's works. Moreover, the Vossius in question seems to be *Gerardus*, rather than his son, Isaac, who was born in the seventeenth century.

Church Fathers Ignorant of Josephus Passage

In any event, as G.A. Wells points out in *The Jesus Myth*, not only do several Church fathers from the second, third and early fourth centuries have no apparent knowledge of the TF, but even after Eusebius suddenly "found" it in the first half of the fourth century, several other fathers into the fifth "often cite Josephus, but not this passage." (Wells, *JM*, 202) In the 5th century, Church father Jerome (c. 347-c.419) cited the TF *once*, with obvious disinterest, as if he knew it was fraudulent. In addition to his reference to the TF, in his Letter XXII. to Eustochium, Jerome made the following audacious claim:

"Josephus, himself a Jewish writer, asserts that at the Lord's crucifixion there broke from the temple voices of heavenly powers, saying: 'Let us depart hence.'"

Either Jerome fabricated this alleged Josephus quote, or he possessed a unique copy of the Jewish historian's works, in which this assertion had earlier been interpolated. In any case, Jerome's claim constitutes "pious fraud," one of many committed by Christian proponents over the centuries, a rampant practice, in fact, that must be kept in mind when considering the authenticity of the TF. Following is a list of important Christian authorities who studied and/or mentioned Josephus but not the Jesus passage:

1. Justin Martyr (c. 100-c. 165), who obviously pored over Josephus's works, makes no mention of the TF.
2. Theophilus (d. 180), Bishop of Antioch--no mention of the TF.
3. Irenaeus (c. 120/140-c. 200/203), saint and compiler of the New Testament, has not a word about the TF.
4. Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-211/215), influential Greek theologian and prolific Christian writer, head of

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- the Alexandrian school, says nothing about the TF.
5. Origen (c. 185-c. 254), no mention of the TF and specifically states that Josephus did *not* believe Jesus was "the Christ."
 6. Hippolytus (c. 170-c. 235), saint and martyr, nothing about the TF.
 7. The author of the ancient Syriac text, "History of Armenia," refers to Josephus but not the TF.
 8. Minucius Felix (d. c. 250), lawyer and Christian convert--no mention of the TF.
 9. Anatolius (230-c. 270/280)--no mention of TF.
 10. Chrysostom (c. 347-407), saint and Syrian prelate, not a word about the TF.
 11. Methodius, saint of the 9th century--even at this late date there were apparently copies of Josephus without the TF, as Methodius makes no mention of it.
 12. Photius (c. 820-891), Patriarch of Constantinople, not a word about the TF, again indicating copies of Josephus devoid of the passage, or, perhaps, a rejection of it because it was understood to be fraudulent.

Arguments Against Authenticity Further Elucidated

When the evidence is scientifically examined, it becomes clear that the *entire* Josephus passage regarding Jesus was forged, likely by Church historian Eusebius, during the fourth century. In "Who on Earth was Jesus Christ?" David Taylor details the reasons why the TF *in toto* must be deemed a forgery, most of which arguments, again, were put forth by Dr. Lardner:

- "It was not quoted or referred to by any Christian apologists prior to Eusebius, c. 316 AD.
- "Nowhere else in his voluminous works does Josephus use the word 'Christ,' except in the passage which refers to James 'the brother of Jesus who was called Christ' (*Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 20, Chapter 9, Paragraph 1), which is also considered to be a forgery.
- "Since Josephus was not a Christian but an orthodox Jew, it is impossible that he should have believed or written that Jesus was the Christ or used the words 'if it be lawful to call him a man,' which imply the Christian belief in Jesus' divinity.
- "The extraordinary character of the things related in the passage--of a man who is apparently more than a man, and who rose from the grave after being dead for three days--demanded a more extensive treatment by Josephus, which would undoubtedly have been forthcoming if he had been its author.
- "The passage interrupts the narrative, which would flow more naturally if the passage were left out entirely.
- "It is not quoted by Chrysostom (c. 354-407 AD) even though he often refers to Josephus in his voluminous writings.
- "It is not quoted by Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople (c. 858-886 AD) even though he wrote three articles concerning Josephus, which strongly implies that his copy of Josephus' *Antiquities* did not contain the passage.

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- "Neither Justin Martyr (110-165 AD), nor Clement of Alexandria (153-217 AD), nor Origen (c.185-254 AD), who all made extensive reference to ancient authors in their defence of Christianity, has mentioned this supposed testimony of Josephus.
- "Origen, in his treatise *Against Celsus*, Book I, Chapter 47, states categorically that Josephus did NOT believe that Jesus was the Christ.
- "This is the only reference to the Christians in the works of Josephus. If it were genuine, we would have expected him to have given us a fuller account of them somewhere."

When the earliest Greek texts are analyzed, it is obvious that the *Testimonium Flavianum* interrupts the flow of the primary material and that the style of the language is different from that of Josephus. There is other evidence that the TF never appeared in the original Josephus. As Wells says:

"As I noted in *The Jesus Legend*, there is an ancient table of contents in the *Antiquities* which omits all mention of the *Testimonium*. Feldman (in Feldman and Hata, 1987, p. 57) says that this table is already mentioned in the fifth- or sixth-century Latin version of the *Antiquities*, and he finds it 'hard to believe that such a remarkable passage would be omitted by anyone, let alone by a Christian summarizing the work.'" (Wells, JM, 201)

Also, Josephus goes into long detail about the lives of numerous personages of relatively little import, including several Jesuses. It is inconceivable that he would devote only a few sentences to someone even remotely resembling the character found in the New Testament. If the gospel tale constituted "history," Josephus's elders would certainly be aware of Jesus's purported assault

on the temple, for example, and the historian, who was obviously interested in instances of messianic agitation, would surely have reported it, in detail. Moreover, the TF refers to Jesus as a "wise man"—this phrase is used by Josephus in regard to only two other people, out of hundreds, i.e., the patriarchs Joseph and Solomon. If Josephus had thought so highly of an historical Jesus, he surely would have written more extensively about him. Yet, he does not. Lest it be suggested that Josephus somehow could have been ignorant of the events in question, the Catholic Encyclopedia ("Flavius Josephus") says:

"... Josephus...was chosen by the Sanhedrin at Jerusalem to be commander-in-chief in Galilee. As such he established in every city throughout the country a council of judges, the members of which were recruited from those who shared his political views."

Indeed, Josephus was a well-educated Jew who lived in the precise area where the gospel tale was said to have taken place, as did his parents, the latter at the very time of Christ's alleged advent. It was Josephus's passion to study the Jewish people and their history; yet, other than the obviously bogus TF, and the brief "James passage" mentioned by Taylor above, it turns out that in his voluminous works Josephus discussed neither Christ nor Christianity. Nor does it make any sense that the prolific Jewish writer would not detail the Christian movement itself, were Christians extant at the time in any significant numbers.

The Catholic Encyclopedia (CE), which tries to hedge its bet about the Josephus passage, is nevertheless forced to admit: "The passage seems to suffer from repeated interpolations." In the same entry, CE also confirms that Josephus's writings were used extensively by the early Christian fathers, such as Jerome, Ambrose and Chrysostom; nevertheless, as noted, except for Jerome, they never mention the TF.

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Regarding the TF, as well as the James passage, which possesses the phrase "James, the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ," Jewish writer ben Yehoshua makes some interesting assertions:

"Neither of these passages is found in the original version of the *Jewish Antiquities* which was preserved by the Jews. The first passage (XVII, 3, 3) was quoted by Eusebius writing in c. 320 C.E., so we can conclude that it was added in some time between the time Christians got hold of the *Jewish Antiquities* and c. 320 C.E. It is not known when the other passage (XX, 9, 1) was added... Neither passage is based on any reliable sources. It is fraudulent to claim that these passages were written by Josephus and that they provide evidence for Jesus. They were written by Christian redactors and were based purely on Christian belief."

Yehoshua claims that the 12th century historian Gerald of Wales related that a "Master Robert of the Priory of St. Frideswide at Oxford examined many Hebrew copies of Josephus and did not find the 'testimony about Christ,' except for two manuscripts where it appeared [to Robert, evidently] that the testimony had been present but scratched out." Yehoshua states that, since "scratching out" requires the removal of the top layers, the deleted areas in these mere two of the *many* copies likely did not provide any solid evidence that it was the TF that had been removed. Apologists will no doubt insist that these Hebrew texts are late copies and that Jewish authorities had the TF removed. This accusation of mutilating an author's work, of course, can easily be turned around on the Christians. Also, considering that Vossius purportedly possessed a copy of the *Antiquities* without the TF, it is quite possible that there were "many Hebrew copies" likewise devoid of the passage.

High Criticism by Christian Authorities

The many reasons for concluding the Josephus passage to be a forgery have been expounded upon by numerous well-respected authorities, so much so that such individuals have been compelled by honesty and integrity to dismiss the *Testimonium in toto* as a forgery. In *The Christ*, John Remsburg relates the opinions of critics of the TF from the past couple of centuries, the majority of whom were *Christian authorities*, including and especially Dr. Lardner, who said:

"A testimony so favorable to Jesus in the works of Josephus, who lived so soon after our Savior, who was so well acquainted with the transactions of his own country, who had received so many favors from Vespasian and Titus, would not be overlooked or neglected by any Christian apologist (Lardner's Works, vol. I, chap. iv)."

Yet, the TF was overlooked and neglected by early Christian writers. In other words, they never cited it because it didn't exist.

Another authority, Bishop Warburton, called the TF a "rank forgery, and a very stupid one, too." Remsburg further related the words of the "Rev. Dr. Giles, of the Established Church of England," who stated:

"Those who are best acquainted with the character of Josephus, and the style of his writings, have no hesitation in condemning this passage as a forgery, interpolated in the text during the third century by some pious Christian, who was scandalized that so famous a writer as Josephus should have taken no notice of the gospels, or of Christ, their subject..."

In addition, the Rev. S. Baring-Gould remarked:

"This passage is first quoted by Eusebius (fl. A.D. 315) in two places (Hist. Eccl., lib. I, c. xi; Demonst. Evang. lib. iii); but it was unknown to Justin Martyr (fl. A.D. 140), Clement of Alexandria (fl. A.D. 192),

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Tertullian (fl. A.D. 193), and Origen (fl. A.D. 230). Such a testimony would certainly have been produced by Justin in his apology or in his controversy with Trypho the Jew, had it existed in the copies of Josephus at his time. The silence of Origen is still more significant. Celsus, in his book against Christianity, introduces a Jew. Origen attacks the argument of Celsus and his Jew. He could not have failed to quote the words of Josephus, whose writings he knew, had the passage existed in the genuine text. He, indeed, distinctly affirms that Josephus did not believe in Christ (Contr. Cels. I)."

Remsburg also recounts:

"Canon Farrar, who has written an ablest Christian life of Christ yet penned, repudiates it. He says: 'The single passage in which he [Josephus] alludes to him is interpolated, if not wholly spurious' (Life of Christ, Vol. I, p. 46).

"The following, from Dr. Farrar's pen, is to be found in the Encyclopedia Britannica: 'That Josephus wrote the whole passage as it now stands no sane critic can believe.'"

And so on, with similar opinions by Christian scholars such as Theodor Keim, Rev. Dr. Hooykaas and Dr. Alexander Campbell. By the time of Dr. Chalmers and others, the TF had been so discredited that these authorities understood it as a forgery *in toto* and did not even consider it for a moment as "evidence" of Jesus's existence and/or divinity. In fact, these subsequent defenders of the faith, knowing the TF to be a forgery, repeatedly commented on *how disturbing it was that Josephus did not mention Jesus*.

In the modern apologist work *The Case for Christ*, Lee Strobel relates a passage from a novel published in 1979 by Charles Templeton, in which the author states,

regarding Jesus, "There isn't a single word about him in secular history. Not a word. No mention of him by the Romans. Not so much as a reference by Josephus." (Strobel, 101) Strobel then reports the response by Christian professor Edwin Yamauchi, who claimed that Templeton was mistaken and that there *was* a reference to Jesus by Josephus. Yamauchi's fatuous response ignores, purposefully or otherwise, the previous ironclad arguments about which Templeton was apparently educated, such that he made such a statement. In other words, Templeton was evidently aware of the purported reference in Josephus but had understood by the arguments of the more erudite, earlier Christian authorities that it was a forgery; hence, *there is "not so much as a reference by Josephus."* In this facile manner of merely ignoring or dismissing the earlier scholarship, modern believers cling to the long-dismissed TF in order to convince themselves of the unbelievable.

For a more modern criticism, in *The Jesus Puzzle* and his online article "Josephus Unbound," secularist and classicist Earl Doherty leaves no stone unturned in demolishing the TF, permitting no squirming room for future apologists, whose resort to the TF will show, as it has done in the past, how hopeless is their plight in establishing an "historical Jesus." Concerning the use of Josephus as "evidence" of Jesus' existence, Doherty remarks:

"...in the absence of any other supporting evidence from the first century that in fact the Jesus of Nazareth portrayed in the Gospels clearly existed, Josephus becomes the slender thread by which such an assumption hangs. And the sound and fury and desperate manoeuvrings which surround the dissection of those two little passages becomes a din of astonishing proportions.... The obsessive focus on this one uncertain record is necessitated by the fact that

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the rest of the evidence is so dismal, so contrary to the orthodox picture. If almost everything outside Josephus points in a different direction, to the essential fiction of the Gospel picture and its central figure, how can Josephus be made to bear on his shoulders, *through two passages whose reliability has thus far remained unsettled*, the counterweight to all this other negative evidence?"

Other modern authors who criticize the TF include *The Jesus Mysteries* authors Freke and Gandy, who conclude:

"Unable to provide any historical evidence for Jesus, later Christians forged the proof that they so badly needed to shore up their Literalist interpretation of the gospels. This, as we would see repeatedly, was a common practice." (Freke and Gandy, 137)

Despite the desperate din, a number of other modern writers remain in concurrence with the earlier scholarship and likewise consider the TF in toto a fraud.

The Culprit: Eusebius (c. 264-340)

In addition to acknowledging the spuriousness of the Josephus passage, many authorities quoted here agreed with the obvious: Church historian Eusebius was the forger of the *entire* Testimonium Flavianum. Various reasons have already been given for making such a conclusion. In "Did Jesus Really Live?" Marshall Gauvin remarks:

"Everything demonstrates the spurious character of the passage. It is written in the style of Eusebius, and not in the style of Josephus. Josephus was a voluminous writer. He wrote extensively about men of minor importance. The brevity of this reference to Christ is, therefore, a strong argument for its falsity. This passage interrupts the narrative. It has nothing to do with what precedes or what follows it; and its position clearly shows

that the text of the historian has been separated by a later hand to give it room."

Regarding the absence of the TF in the writings of earlier Christian fathers and its sudden appearance with Eusebius, CMU says:

"...it has been observed that the famous passage which we find in Josephus, about Jesus Christ, was never mentioned or alluded to in any way whatever by any of the fathers of the first, second, or third centuries; nor until the time of Eusebius, 'when it was first quoted by himself [sic].' The truth is, none of these fathers could quote or allude to a passage which did not exist in their times; but was to all points short of absolutely certain, forged and interpolated by Eusebius, as suggested by Gibbon and others. Even the redoubtable Lardner has pronounced this passage to be a forgery." (CMU, 79-80)

Moreover, the word "tribe" in the TF is another clue that the passage was forged by Eusebius, who is fond of the word, while Josephus uses it only in terms of ethnicity, never when describing a religious sect. Kerry Shirts adds to this particular point:

"Eusebius studied Josephus diligently, and could thus masquerade as he, except when he used the word 'tribe' to describe the Christians. All the literature from the Ante-Nicene Fathers show they never used the word 'tribe' or 'race' with reference to the Christians, was [sic] either by the Fathers or when they quoted non-Christian writers. Tertullian, Pliny the Younger, Trajan, Rufinus--none use 'tribe' to refer to Christians. Eusebius is the first to start the practice."

In *Antiqua Mater: A Study of Christian Origins*, Edwin Johnson remarked that the fourth century was "the great age of literary forgery, the extent of which has yet to be exposed." He further commented that "not until the mass of inventions labeled 'Eusebius' shall be exposed, can the pretended references to Christians in Pagan writers of the first three centuries be recognized for the

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forgeries they are." Indeed, Eusebius's character has been assailed repeatedly over the centuries, with him being called a "luminous liar" and "unreliable." Like so many others, Drews likewise criticizes Eusebius, stating that various of the Church historian's references "must be regarded with the greatest suspicion." As Drews relates, Swiss historian Jakob Burckhardt (1818-1897) declared Eusebius to be "the first thoroughly dishonest historian of antiquity." (Drews, 32/fn) Eusebius's motives were to empower the Catholic Church, and he did not fail to use "falsifications, suppressions, and fictions" to this end.

Conclusion: Josephus No Evidence of Jesus

Even if the Josephus passage were authentic, which we have essentially proved it not to be, it nevertheless would represent not an eyewitness account but rather a tradition passed along for at least six decades, long after the purported events. Hence, the TF would possess little if any value in establishing an "historical" Jesus. In any event, it is quite clear that the entire passage in Josephus regarding Christ, the Testimonium Flavianum, is spurious, false and a forgery. Regarding the TF, Remsburg summarizes:

"For nearly sixteen hundred years Christians have been citing this passage as a testimonial, not merely to the historical existence, but to the divine character of Jesus Christ. And yet a ranker forgery was never penned...."

"Its brevity disproves its authenticity. Josephus' work is voluminous and exhaustive. It comprises twenty books. Whole pages are devoted to petty robbers and obscure seditious leaders. Nearly forty chapters are devoted to the life of a single king. Yet this remarkable being, the greatest product of his race, a being of whom the prophets foretold ten thousand wonderful things, a being

greater than any earthly king, is dismissed with a dozen lines...."

The dismissal of the passage in Josephus regarding Jesus is not based on "faith" or "belief" but on intense scientific scrutiny and reasoning. Such investigation has been confirmed repeatedly by numerous scholars who were mostly Christian. *The Testimonium Flavianum, Dr. Lardner concluded in none too forceful words, "ought, therefore...to be discarded from any place among the evidences of Christianity."* With such outstanding authority and so many scientific reasons, we can at last dispense with the pretentious charade of wondering if the infamous passage in the writings of Josephus called the Testimonium Flavianum is forged and who fabricated it.

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Above: Kenn Thomas and Acharya S

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Unihipili: An Intuitive Perspective

by Jayo Beldo

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On the eve of WW III, I went to the nearest Wal Mart and bought an Easter basket with toy military action figures and weapons lovingly stuffed in some plastic grass and wrapped in cellophane with fairies on it. I took this ghastly 'war candy' home with me and put it next to my bed in hopes that through an Edgar Cayce type of psychic osmosis, I would understand its true purpose in the marketing scheme of things. However, that night I was viciously attacked in my sleep. Not by the Easter Bunny per se, but rather by a nasty entity which looked like a cross between Darth Vader and the creature depicted in the original 'Alien' movie. The vampiric entity, with hollow eyes and an obviously hollow heart, used the Wal Mart Easter basket as a kind of transducer or capacitor in order to beam and then amplify its negativity directly into my physical body, thus trying to gain full possession of me. (This kind of thing happened to me years ago during Halloween Night, when I bought some Elvira Perfume at Walgreens and took it home with me). Fortunately, using psychic self defense skills learned over the last ten years or so, I was able to ward the thing off and go back to sleep undisturbed. However, the next day I realized that this being was a kind of gatekeeper or 'watcher' whose function is to keep a negative vortex open so that malign creatures from other dimensions (or perhaps Planet X itself) can come pouring in, regardless if they are invited or not. I sincerely believe that such a gatekeeper is working 24/7 over the White House at the moment.

During my morning meditation on the day after the psychic attack, I saw a core group of black magicians who are successfully controlling 'President' George W. Bush through what is called 'Unihipili'. 'Unihipili' is the Hawaiian Kahuna form of black magic in which discarnate souls are trapped, transported and inserted into unsuspecting humans. 'Unihipili' can cause certain unsuspecting individuals to be fully possessed and therefore enslaved by their remote controllers. Many cases of this kind of possession can be found in cultural variations of the 'Unihipili' technique such as those found in Haitian Voodoo, Bon-Po Shamanism, Left Hand Tantric yoga of the Aghora variety and, of course, Western versions of the black arts as found in such dubious systems as the Golden Dawn and elsewhere. Bush's hostile takeover by an discarnate/evil soul could very well have happened long ago, when his aura was sufficiently weakened and

damaged by his prolonged cocaine and alcohol binging, perhaps during his Ivy League salad days. Regardless of when or where the possession happened, I strongly believe that Bush's gonzo militarism as manifested in the current Iraq war can be directly attributed to his being possessed by some negative entity completely controlling him.

After the experience described above happened, Kenn Thomas asked me to write something for *Steamshovel Press*. I decided to make an intuitive assessment of exactly what discarnate souls have been trapped, transported and inserted into those so called humans criminally occupying the White House at the moment. Here's what I discovered via my trusty third eye:

1. George W. Bush: I'd like to say that King George is fully possessed and controlled by the soul of Adolph Hitler but that would probably be an insult to the most famous tyrant of all time. Hitler was far more intelligent, shrewd and charismatic than Dubya. It would be a safe bet that Curious George is currently being controlled by Hanussen, Hitler's Jewish Clairvoyant (check out the book on this character put out by Feral House). The discarnate Hanussen is a kind of Zionist cum Voodoo Loa who is gleaning data concerning Mossad/China connections, theft of nuclear secrets from Los Alamos, and telepathically relaying them to North Korea through the commander in chief's body. Only God knows where Hanussen will go when the physical body of George Bush dies. Maybe back to Nancy Reagan who he possessed during the S and L scandal back in the 80s.

2. Dick Cheney: Hermann Goering, the Luftwaffe Commander who committed suicide currently possesses Vice President 'Donkey' Dick. Cheney lacks Goering's fine taste in decadent art and svelte young boys (the latter is debatable according to some conspiracy writers however) Goering initially had a vested interest, while marauding about on the astral plane, in Enron, Halliburton and other high profile, capital intensive endeavors designed to endanger the economic well being of the average U.S. citizen. He is using Cheney as a conduit, to continue moving the project of fascist globalization forward since he himself had to shred his own corporate books during the final days of the Third Reich. Will Goering succeed in realizing his dream through the debile body of Dick Cheney? Or will he have to find another 'unworthy vessel' to possess when Dick has a heart attack/stroke because of the heavy stresses the Iraq war will no doubt have on him.

3. John Ashcroft: Joseph Goebbels longed for the realization of an ultimately anti-democratic agency like

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Homeland Security during the Third Reich. In order to see his dream come true in far less than a thousand years, Joe bypassed reincarnating as a crack baby in Harlem (which would have been an attempt to burn his own negative karma) and then allowed himself to be trapped by some malign Bon Po shamans currently hiding in the Shensi Pyramids in Tibet. He was then transported to a bardo state (that looked like the studio set for FOX News Channel or CNN) and during an auspicious time, was then inserted into Ashcroft's soulless body the day after 9-11, when a negative vortex (similar to the one created by the Easter basket and the Elvira Halloween Perfume) was opened up above the World Trade towers. Such a high profile 'walk-in' as Goebbels should raise the hackles of any psychically sensitive individual concerned about the endangerment of our constitutional rights.

4. Donald Rumsfeld: I'd like to say that the U.S. Secretary of Defense is possessed by Rommel the Desert Fox or Napoleon or Alexander the Great, but sad to say, I saw nothing that grandiose. Sorry folks. Instead, I picked up that a mediocre Grey alien from Zeta Reticuli is controlling our Secretary of Defense instead. The Greys are known for their total lack of emotions/imagination according to some UFO-ologists I've read. How else can you explain some one so caringly coordinating the slaughter of innocent Iraqis while simultaneously weeping crocodile tears for CNN?

5. William J. Bennett: while not officially a part of the Bush administration, the former Secretary of Education is currently possessed by Heinrich Himmler. However Himmler's intentions are actually good this time around on the incarnational Ferris Wheel. The timely and upright book 'Why We Fight: Moral Clarity and the War on Terrorism' supposedly written by Bill Bennett himself was actually channeled through Bennett's ultimately vacant body via the suicided soul of Himmler himself. Heinrich desperately wanted to be a promoter of moral clarity during the Third Reich, but his genocidal plate was way too full for that lofty dream to be fully realized. Maybe the SS Avatar will channel an additional chapter through William (encrypted in runestones of course as a matter of National Security), transducing info. suggesting that sending all the Zionists to Madagascar will ensure that world peace which will inevitably ensue.

Space does not allow a full spectrum, intuitive assessment of the Bush Administration and the creeps who occupy it. However, the perspective I have just shared should open up some interesting possibilities as to the motivations, unconscious and otherwise, of America's bogus and cutthroat leaders. Perhaps some White Magic version of 'Unihipili will be unearthed

and truly democratic souls floating about in the ethers will be inserted into the Hollow Men of the Bush regime. Perhaps we will have a choice as to which souls will get to campaign during the next presidential election. It sure would make the act of voting a spiritually compelling experience, once again. Any one care to nominate Pericles of Athens as a candidate?

Jaye Beldo writes for *Disinfo.Com*, *The Konformist*, *Paranoia Magazine*, *Steamshovel Press* and other publications. He has appeared on BBC London, WGN Chicago, WFLA Orlando and other radio stations around the world. He can be reached at Netuous@aol.com.

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The "Real" Philadelphia Experiment?

Part 2: Time Travel, Hyperdimensionality & 'Divided Space'

By Alexandra Bruce

In a previous Steamshovel article by entitled "The 'Real' Philadelphia Experiment? I introduced readers to Bob Beckwith who, as an electrical wunderkind during WWII, was tapped by Bell Laboratories in conjunction with the U.S. Navy, to develop advancements in sonar technology.

While conducting his sonar communications tests out of New London Connecticut, aboard the experimental minesweeper IX-97, several of the enlisted shipmates spoke to him of strange events that had occurred on that same ship during a Navy experiment, prior to Beckwith's tenure there.

The story they told him in June of 1944 contained many of the salient features (with important divergences) of a rumor that would be propagated a decade later, in 1955 by the Office of Naval Research.

Two Special Projects Commanders in that office commissioned the publication of a Morris K. Jessup book, *The Case for the UFO*, featuring in its margins the scrawled rants of a traumatized madman, who claimed to have witnessed the legendary experiment.

This madman was later determined to be ex-Navy enlistee and possible MK Ultra test subject, Carl Allen.

This version of the book has come to be known as the "Varo edition", after the company the Navy hired to print it. This Navy-sponsored publication propagated the rumor that eventually became widely known as the "Philadelphia Experiment". Thus, the Eldridge legend has its origins in the Navy, itself. (The Philadelphia Experiment legend and its Montauk Project sequel are part of a long-term PSYOP, which will be the subject of a future work by this author.)

Beckwith's story diverges significantly from the popularly told legend on two counts: 1) the ship involved was NOT the Destroyer Escort, U.S.S. Eldridge but instead the experimental minesweeper IX-97 (re-named the U.S.S. Martha's Vineyard by the Navy); the purpose of Beckwith's "real" Philadelphia

Experiment had nothing whatsoever to do with "radar invisibility" and everything to do with a purposeful recreation of a teleportation experiment purportedly conducted by Nikola Tesla several years earlier.

The highlights of the testimonies Beckwith says he was given in 1944, which are identical to the classic tale commonly handed down included the accidental teleportation of a Navy vessel from Philadelphia to a Naval base in Virginia and the horrible consequence of a sailor's body becoming fused with the steelwork of the ship. In Beckwith's own telling, quoting from his 1996 book, *Hypotheses*:

"Part of his body was inside and part outside of a splash cowling just forward of a port side cabin's sliding door. I was shown fresh paint on the inside and outside of this curved cowling where the mate had been impaled, half in and half out of the cabin."

Eighteen months prior to his work aboard the IX-97, Beckwith says he had been called to a briefing by Edward Teller, about the latter's intention to duplicate a small-scale teleportation demonstration by Nikola Tesla with a full-scale minesweeper. Beckwith says that it was clear to him that by 1944, Teller had succeeded in enjoining the Navy to follow through with his plans - with quite literally, mixed results.

Sixty years later, Beckwith is adamant that the teleportation experiment aboard the IX-97 was the "real" Philadelphia Experiment and that the commonly retold legend, involving the classic elements of "radar invisibility" as the intent of the project and the U.S.S. Eldridge, as the boat where it took place is a disinformational cover story, concocted by the Navy. The purpose of this now-shopworn legend was to confuse the issue and to discredit accounts of the Navy's early efforts to manipulate space-time physics.

Any serious investigation of the Eldridge story would end up at a dead end and hopefully skunk any further heavyweight inquiry into the Navy's most esoteric of projects.

While Beckwith is still actively involved in the electrical utilities industry, after almost seventy years and he continues to be the CEO of large and successful company he founded 35 years ago, with contracts all over the United States and Latin America (see www.beckwithelectric.com), he has never been a physicist. Nevertheless, it is interesting to entertain his out-of-the-box conjectures about the Navy project that he brushed up against in his youth.

Bob Beckwith asserts that the premise of Teller's IX-97 test - the "real" Philadelphia Experiment - was to teleport a U.S. vessel to a previous point in its space-time trajectory by encapsulating the boat in a highly specialized, three-phase 'electromagnetic bottle'. This would allow a ship to 'blip' out of the way of enemy fire, as incredible as that sounds. He proposes that the experiment's intent was to give a U.S. vessel,

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at the flip of a switch, the instantaneous ability to be excised from the universal space-time coordinate in which it had detected the presence of an enemy mine. Beckwith suggests that the creation of such a separated space-time field can be done by engaging the principles of what he calls 'divided space'.

In his book, *Hypotheses*, Beckwith develops a series of fascinating, unorthodox postulates based on some premises, which I will grossly over-simplify below. (The ensuing information has drawn criticism from a professional physicist. I reiterate that neither Beckwith nor myself are physicists and I entreat all physicists reading this to apply their skills to properly language and/or refuting the foregoing premises and descriptions of how the "real" Philadelphia Experiment may have been achieved).

According to Beckwith, strong nuclear force lines energetically connect all atoms in universal space, literally holding the universe together and functioning as a medium for the transmission of all frequencies. A means of intentionally disrupting these strong force lines is via the manipulation of neutrino fields. A bubble of 'divided space' can be created by the application of a vortex of neutrinos within a given area. The neutrinos in this vortex must be rotating at the same rate as that of the fundamental resonance of the planet Earth. Beckwith explains that a related phenomenon, which occurs haphazardly in nature, is 'ball lightning'. (Interestingly enough, such ball lightning or 'Tesla balls' have figured repeatedly in UFO eyewitness accounts, a detail that will become more meaningful by the end of this report).

Neutrinos interpenetrate all matter in the cosmos and they are the smallest subatomic particles yet measured. Stars are constantly creating new neutrinos, which speed throughout the universe in all directions, becoming modulated by and carrying information about the bodies through which they pass.

These tiny neutral particles are possibly massless and have an incredibly weak nuclear force, rarely impacting upon the matter, which they more often than not, pass through. Telescopes to measure neutrinos are constructed beneath huge granite mountains, to reduce background radiation signals, which mask their weak signal. Beckwith theorizes that neutrinos have an infinite information handling bandwidth and function as the "voice and the power of the universe".

As this information relates to a Philadelphia-type Experiment, he explains:

"A space divided from universal space can be created by causing a small percentage of neutrinos passing through the space to travel in a vortex rotating at a frequency in the order of 7.5 Hertz. Strong force lines at the boundaries of the space are interrupted so long as the vortex exists. This twisting field is necessary to break the field of strong force lines

between all matter in universal space and to create an inner space separated from universal space.

"If a rotating magnetic field is operated in synchronism with the Earth's 7.32 Hz fundamental resonance*, objects within one such space can be moved with respect to our 'universal space' when power is applied. The divided space is then free of forces of inertia or gravity. Once the space is divided, objects within the space may levitate, teleport or move in time. Divided inner space can pass through universal space but is dependant on the drag and surface sharpness between spaces being low enough to prevent piercing the shell of the missing strong force lines. Electromagnetic waves, including visible light and infra red heat can pass through the boundaries of the divided spaces."

(*While some New Age publications have claimed that the Earth's resonance has sped up to 13.5 Hz or 21 Hz, Beckwith disagrees and points out that these higher frequencies are harmonics of the fundamental resonance of 7.32 Hz). As to how these hypotheses apply to his recollection of the minesweeper's layout and how this teleportation experiment played out, he says: "The forward cabin formed the research room housing our experimental gear. The bridge was above us. A second cabin towards the stern housed three special looking generators, motor-driven from ship's power. Controls for these generators were also housed in the second cabin.

"I believe three phase currents were placed through the wires at a low frequency. This frequency was most likely the 7.32 Hz fundamental frequency recognized by Tesla and first measured by Jack Shulman.

"As they gradually eased the power up, the experimenters found that lower power levels had no noticeable effect. Suddenly, a frequency threshold was crossed and - wham, they traveled back two weeks in time instead of the desired 15 minutes or so needed to get out of the way of a mine. Once separated, the inner space containing the ship apparently moved back to a time when the ship was berthed at Newport News, VA.

"As the current level in the three cables was increased, force lines began to tear between the ship and universal space. Only when the level reached the point that all the lines were broken, was the IX-97 free from the pull of the earth and the time of the present.

"The boat was free to suddenly go wherever it is that things within a divided space go. In the case of the IX-97, that place was two weeks back in time to the place where it was at berth in Newport News. Turning off the power when the skipper saw what had happened reconnected the divided space to universal space, jerking the boat back to the Philadelphia Navy yard harbor. The return of the IX-97 to Philadelphia

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was within seconds of the time it left, not in 1984, as in the science fiction version released to movie houses in 1984.

"More sophisticated equipment may have been involved in preparing the minesweeper than that described here. I had the sense of a quick experiment gotten together in a matter of a few months and must have been rather simple addition to the 'standard' minesweeper. Since we needed all the minesweepers we could get into active service, it surely was the IX-97 that made the time trip and was kept out of duty a few months longer for our subsequent experiment with FM/SSB communications in 1944.

"It appears that the ["real"] Philadelphia Experiment [with the IX-97] was planned in part at least, by Dr. Horton and others at Ebel Labs and people at the underwater sound lab [at the New London, CT Naval base], that we worked with in the subsequent communications experiment. The IX-97 must have been the minesweeper involved since what other reason would there have been for the third overhead 'degaussing' cable?

"The experiment could well have been planned and carried out by civilian scientists with little involvement of the Navy, as with the work in which I was involved.

"Retired Army Intelligence officer, Col. Phillip J. Corso has confirmed the experiment from work he did with Admiral Burke while Chairman and chief policy maker of President Eisenhower's National Security Administration. Corso tells me (Bob Beckwith) of Burke's knowledge of the experiment and his deep concern and his regret over the loss of life that resulted. Corso tells me that my recall of the event has greater detail than any other source that he knows of. He tells me that the project continued and has progressed greatly since then. Col. Corso has kindly given permission to use his name for this important confirmation of my 55 year old memory."

While Beckwith claims that the Eldridge legend is the Navy's disinformational fabrication, his IX-97 story does not necessarily disprove the popular legend. If the principles of divided space that he describes are viable, then they would surely have been tested more than once and on more than one vessel.

Furthermore, Beckwith surmises that this super secret technology must have advanced considerably since then and he claims to have an idea of one way this technology is being applied by the Navy today. I received in the mail from him a laminated, 46-page commemorative booklet on a modern day minesweeper, the U.S.S. Cardinal, which he had recently toured. The vessel is one of ten or so "Osprey Class" ships completed over the past decade. According to the Navy's own brochure on the Cardinal: "The ships' hulls are a solid, continuous monocoque

structure laminated from special fiberglass and resin. They are easy to maintain and flex to absorb the violent shock of an underwater mine explosion. The ships are designed to have very low magnetic and acoustic signatures, giving them an added margin of safety during operations." This description could suggest that the ship's laminate is kindred to the secret coating on Stealth Fighter planes, famous for being state-of-the-art in 'radar invisibility'. The officer leading the tour told him that there is no iron of any kind allowed on the ship, not even paperclips.

Beckwith believes that this 'fiberglass' construction is made of Carbon 14, which he says is "10,000 stronger than normal Carbon 12 diamonds and is also a superconductor over a wide temperature range." During his lecture tour of the minesweeper, he was told that duty on Osprey Class vessels such as the Cardinal is among the most sought after in the Navy. Already, the fleet had cleared the Earth's shores of mines and they were keeping ahead of those laying more.

He says that he saw the modern version of the three-phase divided space generators aboard the Cardinal, describing them as being the size of "extra wide refrigerators." The units are produced by MATRA-Marconi, a European consortium that is a leader in satellite technology and currently contracting with the U.S. Navy.

Beckwith is convinced that the class of minesweeper to which the Cardinal belongs has the "ability to hop around the world, extending the ability of the IX-97 by 60 years." In other words, the superconducting hulls confer controlled teleportation capabilities to the ships. In addition, he believes that these Osprey Class boats have the ability to generate a field around them, which keeps them one second ahead of the universal space timeline, thereby enabling them to evade detection of any kind. A crew member told him that the men hate when they have to salvage enemy mines and get on deck in order to do so because that is the only time they can ever be seen. Otherwise, if the men are within the field of the ship's cabin, they, along with the entire vessel, are completely invisible.

In a letter to me, he writes: "In a one-on-one discussion with the mission control officer, I was told that the only way one knew where one of the Osprey Class ships were was to look at a display map of about one mile diameter having a boat icon showing their position. He said that this display would change instantly from Tampa to the Persian Gulf, 'just like it did in simulator training.' The day after leaving Tampa, they would be working at a site in Japan. The crew doesn't try very hard to keep their secret, depending instead on the experience that the secret is safe simply because no one will ever believe the truth."

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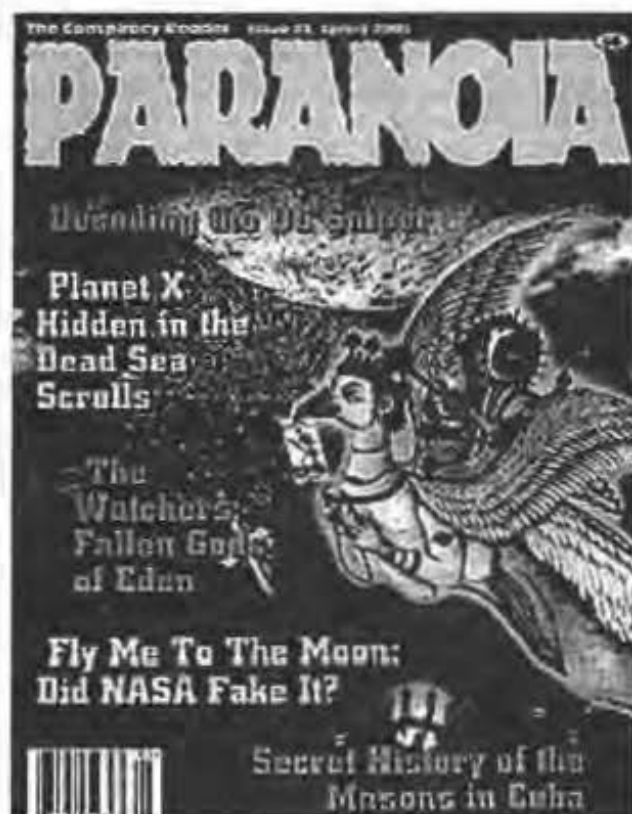
Beckwith's extraordinary, off-the-wall information is particularly jarring because of his deadpan, nuts-and-bolts delivery, as a successful, lifelong engineer. He goes on to say that Phillip Corso, who he refers to as one of the founding members of the NSA, personally told him that a related secret project to that of the IX-97 had "progressed greatly" since the '40s. The implications of this are mind-boggling. Was this an oblique reference to these Osprey Class ships or even to the Montauk Project? Could an entire underground base be constructed and maintained within the field of a divided space, within a 'bubble' reality, slightly out of phase with and imperceptible from the perspective of everyday, universal space? Does the military today possess aircraft that have onboard generators which create these three-phase divided space fields? If so, could the extremely fast, 45-degree angle turning UFOs reported worldwide actually be the witnessed maneuvers of super high-tech human military craft? Could the 'Tesla balls' reported in the vicinity of UFOs be 'droplets' of the divided space energy field that have "dripped" off of aircrafts equipped with these generators?

One year after Beckwith self-published the above-cited *Hypotheses*, Phillip Corso released his book, *The Day After Roswell*. Corso received considerable publicity and his book ended up on the *New York Times*' bestseller list. This was unheard-of at the time for a book alleging that such things as fiber optics and laser discs are actually back-engineered alien technology, obtained from the U.S. military's interaction with the infamous Greys. Significantly or not, Corso was dead within a year of his book's release.

Corso's claims are widely considered to be spurious by mainstream writers. On the other end of the nonfiction spectrum, conspiracy authors, such as Jeff Rense agree till the very end, as is alleged of Corso. In Beckwith's defense, he has not spent decades stumping at every UFO and conspiracy convention with his version of events. Moreover, his little-known, self published book and his limited correspondence with myself would hardly comprise a full-scale disinformational push. Would it?

With the possible secrets of free energy and teleportation at stake, a clear view of the facts may not be forthcoming for quite some time.

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Offline Illuminations

reviews

In the new introduction to the centennial edition of *1984* (Harcourt Brace, 2003), Thomas Pynchon says this about what George Orwell got right in the book: "the popularity of helicopters as a resource of 'law enforcement,' familiar to us from countless televised 'crime dramas,' themselves forms of social control—and for that matter at the ubiquity of television itself. The two-way telescreen [in *1984*] bears a close enough resemblance to flat plasma screens linked to 'interactive' cable systems, circa 2003. News is whatever the government says it is, surveillance of ordinary citizens has entered the mainstream of police activity, reasonable search and seizure is a joke. And so forth. 'Wow, the Government has turned into Big Brother, just like Orwell predicted! Something, huh?' 'Orwellian, dude!'" Where Orwell got it wrong, Pynchon notes, was not foreseeing "such exotic developments as the religious wars with which we have become all too familiar, involving various sorts of fundamentalism."

Bigfoot! The True Story of Apes In America (NY: Paraview Pocket Books/Simon and Schuster, 2003) enhances author Loren Coleman's reputation as a leading cryptozoologist in the US, and as a writer with an acute awareness of the nexus between the paranormal and the parapolitical. Coleman's great contribution to JFK studies, of course, is his biography of the oil magnate Tom Slick, *Tom Slick True Life Encounters in Cryptozoology* (Fresno: Linden, 2002). Readers perhaps know Coleman best for his book, *Mysterious America*, which has been revised and expanded in a new 2001 edition by Paraview Press.

In *Bigfoot!* Coleman reviews some of the lore about the mysterious hairy beast, including a truly remarkable reproduction of a 1930 crate label showing the critter toting produce, demonstrating its long history in the popular imagination. This is an important point, since the term "Bigfoot" was not coined until 1958, after Jerry Crews' famous footprint find. Coleman tears apart claims in recent obituaries of Crews' boss, Ray Wallace, that Wallace had hoaxed the first footprints. The Discovery channel also recently repeated this disinformation. Coleman exposes it on a simple factual basis: hoaxter Wallace's hand-carved footprint devices did not match the casts made by Crews. Coleman also notes thoughtfully, however, that even hoaxings to a certain extent reflect the reality of this old and ubiquitous phenomenon's presence in cultural consciousness.

Parts of the book dealing with Crews and Wallace also contextualize the roles played by Ivan Sanderson and Tom Slick in this early Bigfoot escapade.

The author also takes an appropriately critical look at attempted debunkings of the famed 1967 Roger Patterson-Bob Gimlin film--what Coleman calls the Zapruder film of cryptozoology--showing a boob swinging, ape gaited sasquatch bitch. He notes claims that *Planet of the Apes* make-up artist John Chambers made the ape suit in the film. Again, the simple facts debunk the debunking: Chambers made face masks, not body suits. *Steamshovel* readers should note with interest, however, that the CIA did indeed award Chambers its Intelligence Star for his involvement in the Argo conspiracy (see page 20) What could be the purpose both of the untenable rumors of his hoaxing the Patterson-Gimlin and Chambers' lifelong denials?

Information about Bigfoot as well as other non-normal happenings in the Pacific northwest (like the Maury Island UFO), a

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prominent Bigfoot stomping ground, often contain a muddled mix of fact, premature skepticism and sometimes disinformation. Coleman's ability to sort through all that and make it make sense, without resorting to the facile thought lines of debunkers or fanatics, makes *Bigfoot!* a brilliant addition to scholarship about this weird creature.

Two venerable alternative press publishing houses, Loompanics and Timothy Beckley's Global Communications, have each released several titles worthy of the attention of *Steamshovel* readers. Beckley often creates books that draw broadstroke attention to conspiracy topics, UFOs, and assaults against the Illuminati and the New World Order, but also in many cases books that have merit as reviews of history and artifacts of the parapolitical subculture (virtually alone among alternative publishers, Beckley published a book tribute to the late, great William Cooper, entitled *Death of A Conspiracy Salesman*). In the former category resides *UFOs, Prophecy and the End of Times* by Sean Casteel and *Secret Societies and the Founding of America* by edited by K. C. Willis and Commander X. The latter category includes *The Battle of Los Angeles, 1942* by Terrence Sword, which compiles a thorough history of this early UFO incident; and *Nikola Tesla's Death Ray and the Columbia Space Shuttle Disaster*, which looks at the space shuttle's demise from the possibility, very carefully stated only as such, that it resulted from use of particle beam technology.

UFOs, Prophecy and the End of Times recycles the approach of UFO writers as time honored as Morris Jessup (who wrote *UFOs and the Bible*) in making the connections between flying saucer research and the Bible, updating it for the post-9/11 world. It discusses the prophetic dreams of Osama Bin Laden, as revealed in his notorious after-disaster video, and mentions the strange fact that Bob Dylan's last album,

Love and Theft, was released on the very date the WTC towers fell. Casteel tackles the central question that believers in apocalyptic revelation must ask themselves: *why is such a harsh punishment from God necessary?* Interestingly enough, the Willis/Commander X book takes an opposite view, stating emphatically that the founding fathers were not Christians. Rather, this is one point of view in a collection of essays, by what the cover identifies as free-thinkers, specifically concentrated on the post-9/11 reality. "I am a conspiracy researcher," says Willis, "but not a raving fundamentalist, a statist, a theorist, a theist, a theosophist, an egoist, fascist, communist, humanist, apologist for political or religious groups, or any other 'ist' which you may care to hang on me..." [see page 27 for more info on Global Communications]

All that may be true, but often conspiracy researchers need to find survival strategies to live in a world that so categorizes and castigates them. Loompanics has existed for many years to provide resources to do just that. Its current book crop includes what can best be described as manuals on how to beat, cheat, subvert and undermine what the Rastafarians call the "shitstem", otherwise known as the world at large. *Government Creep* by Philip D. Harvey examines the intrusions by government on the daily lives of citizens, with a particular emphasis on the suppression of the sexually explicit—Harvey presides over an AIDS prevention group and sells mail order porn—but also examining the ever burgeoning abuse of other civil rights in the aftermath of the Patriot Act.

Deep Inside the Underground Economy by "Adam Cash" offers its readers tips on avoiding taxes, laundering money, and unreported income. Corporate CEOs get briefed on this kind of thing routinely, but Cash's book directs its advice to the wage slave and ordinary worker in an effort to transform them into "guerilla capitalists."

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In tandem with that is *Jobs Your Mother Never Wanted You to Have* by Carolina Vegas Starr, which points to various career alternatives, such as prostitution, pimping and porn. Starr even gives the more banal occupations sex-related terms, such as lusterer (glassware painter) and pile driver (heavy machine operator), and at times the jobs get a little too up close and personal, like armpit sniffing (beta testing for personal hygiene products). Of course, it contains a large section on drug smuggling. Between these jobs, however, and the underground economy of Cash's book, a class of silent millionaires should develop.

In order to shield their identities, however, another Loompanics offering, *I Am Not A Number!* by Claire Wolfe might be in order. This one combats the surveillance state, the folding, spindling and mutilating by ID systems and PROMIS-like computers, and intrusive laws. Wolfe advocates free communities, as physical entities or just like-minded people working within the faceless bureaucracy. Besides that, the book quotes Jim Goad and gives its due to *The Prisoner* TV show.

Loompanics tops off its line of new product with *Theatre of Hell* by Dr. Haha Lung and Christopher B. Prowant. The authors provide a historical review of the practice, plus an examination of motivations and personality types that indulge it. The audience it targets includes torture watchdog groups, covert operatives (why help those people?) and US citizens traveling abroad. Like the rest of the new Loompanics catalog, it is not only a fascinating read but a helpful handbook for these paranoid times.

So much data has been collected about the JFK assassination that deciding on the current most plausible scenario has almost become a matter of will. So it is with Robin Ramsey's new book, *Who Shot JFK?* [Pocket



Essentials/Trafalgar Square, POB 257, Howe Hill Road, North Pomfret, Vermont 05053] which argues that LBJ did it, basically as an outgrowth of his political ambition, not as a player in a large, bureaucratic military conspiracy.

Ramsay publishes *Lobster*, a twice yearly small press British magazine examining parapolitics [214 Westbourne Avenue, Hull, HU5 3JB, UK; robin@lobster.karoo.co.uk] and has previously contributed to *Steamshovel Press*. In the overall, Ramsay tends to believe authorities over participants and official conclusions over parapolitical speculation. His treatment of the railway hobo behind the grassy knoll, for instance, presents many of the bizarre scenarios developed by researchers over the years, but absurdly holds forth that what the police say, an equally bizarre idea that these were actual tramps, is true. This is a willful assertion, although Ramsay does note the obvious about the

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Warren Commission: "a lie, a deception, baloney – and insulting baloney at that." And his Johnson-did-it-alone thesis obviously thumbs nose at LBJ--as well as a host of self-important Kennedy assassination authorities.

Ramsay writes with clarity, but again, it is a matter of will to emphasize some data over others. He sees the "military theory" as stemming inordinately from Oswald's spy background, which he dismisses with hair-splitting discussion of why do it this way or that. Ramsay ignores, for instance, the amount of photographic and historical information about this possibility, that a Pentagon cell headed by Edward Lansdale may have blown JFK away. [*Steamshovel* debris: a recent Michael Caine movie, *The Quiet American*; a previous Lansdale biopic from 1963 starred Marlon Brando.] Ramsay also does not include mention of Fred Crisman of Maury Island fame, another possible railyard tramp, or the weird placement of Jim Garrison and Guy Bannister in the Pacific Northwest in the late 1940s. Crisman as tramp is mentioned in the infamous Torbitt document, published as *NASA, Nazis & JFK*, which Ramsay suggests was written by the CIA. Others argue with equal conviction that the Torbitt is Soviet disinformation. It is, again, a question of what any individual writer wants to believe. Ramsay also asserts that the Torbitt's sources were untraceable, even though he *NASA/Nazi* edition fully documents the sources.

Who Shot JFK? argues that Johnson did it, starting from the story of Loy Factor, a native American who claimed to have been involved with the assassination along with a man named Wallace. In 1998 the fingerprint of "Mac" Wallace was determined to have been on one of the boxes on the Sixth Floor of the School Book Depository. Malcolm Wallace had previously murdered a man dating LBJ's sister in 1951 and was implicated in a series of murders connected to the Billy Sol Estes scandal, possibly

including JFK's, done at the behest of Lyndon Johnson.

Billy Sol Estes was an LBJ crony who ran a con involving non-existent cotton crop, eerily similar to the non-existent salad oil of the great Salad Oil Swindle. Although Ramsay doesn't mention it, readers of *Mind Control, Oswald & JFK* will remember that Warren Buffet was among the beneficiaries of a short-selling spree on the stock market just after JFK was shot, after the non-presence of salad oil in American Express warehouses was discovered. To reinforce the lessons about process in these large criminal operations, remember also that a similar short-selling spree followed the 9/11 events.

The government official assigned to investigate Estes, Henry Marshall, was murdered in 1961, perhaps by Wallace on orders from LBJ. Ramsay finds further support in a story by Johnson's former mistress, Madeleine Brown, of a November 21 JFK assassination planning meeting between Johnson and the likes of Clint Murchison and J. Edgar Hoover.

Ramsay makes this bold assertion at the end: "This is the solution to the case: LBJ had Kennedy killed to save his political career and stay out of jail. It was just more of the same for LBJ and his little group. Texas was a rough old place in 1963..." But he follows this with further implication that a school friend of Mac Wallace may have been "recruited by Wallace as part of the operation to portray Oswald as a Soviet sympathizer." In order to accept the book's premise the reader must also accept that old-time Texas cronies conducted such an operation, involving multiple Oswald doubles, a defection to the Soviet Union and a long career of U2 connected spy assignments.

Ramsay discusses new analysis by researcher John Armstrong making a good case for two Oswalds groomed since childhood that makes it seem even less likely the assassination was pulled off just by good

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ol' boy Texans. As interesting as is the case that Ramsay makes, and as filled with detail and authoritative research support, downplaying these aspects of Oswald's life, and other military connections like Ed Lansdale (who Ramsay only discusses obliquely by reference to L. Fletcher Prouty), seems willful. Still, for a small book—most JFK books take up several inches of shelf space—*Who Shot JFK?* gives neophytes a good overview and long-time assassination watchers some cutting edge research. (Those interested more in overview of the era as well as the assassination might check out *J. F. Kennedy: A Beginner's Guide* by Peter Neville, a small paperback recently published by Hodder & Stoughton.)

The other important assassinations book comes from Feral House, *The Assassinations*. It is of the more expected larger size, apparently pared down from an even more massive original [Steamshovel debris: researcher Michael Ruppert recently severed his relationship with Feral House apparently because his manuscript was too large to make into book], collecting material from *The Probe*. Jim DiEugenio, a champion of Jim Garrison's investigation and author of a book on the same entitled *Destiny Betrayed*, began *The Probe* as a zine devoted exclusively to JFK but as time went on it encompassed all of the 1960s assassinations, hence the plurality of the book's title. *The Probe*, in fact, was at the forefront of trying to understand these killings—often still presented as anomalous and the unique product of lone nuts or individual circumstances—in terms of the ongoing conspiratorial manipulations in current affairs. It grew from the popular culture atmosphere created by the Oliver Stone *JFK* movie and the consequent research challenge of the Assassination Records Review Board.



The Assassinations includes a lot of material from *Probe*, written, collated and presented by DiEugenio and co-editor Lisa Pease, but also much that never appeared there or anywhere. This includes contribution from Judge Joe Brown, whose decisions regarding gun testing in the Martin Luther King case caused him to be removed from it. Brown went on to become one of those cable TV judges but remains a much admired figure among researchers of MLK.

The Assassinations also looks at the two-Oswald's-since-childhood argument of John Armstrong that captures Robin Ramsay's interest. Combined with Lisa Pease's analysis of Oswald under the influence James Jesus Angleton's counter-intelligence unit, a new understanding of the more bizarre elements of the assassination story seem ready to emerge.

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What corpulence Richard Metzger's disinfo offers these days! In addition to its alternative news and extreme culture web site (www.disinfo.com), and the publishing company (163 Third Avenue, Suite 108, NYC 10003) that produced the huge essay volumes *You Are Being Lied To* and *Everything You Know Is Wrong*, now comes a lavish book, *disinformation the interviews* and a DVD, *disinformation The Complete Series*. *Disinformation the interviews* is an all glossy and in color oral history collection of many of the unusual personalities that often pass through the disinfo world. These include Robert Anton Wilson, *The Invisibles* comic creator Grant Morrison, Genesis P-orridge, artists Joe Coleman and Paul Lafolley, and the renowned media critic Douglas Rushkoff.

The DVD actually has the footage of some of these people via the form of the entire run, plus outtakes, of Metzger's UK *Disinformation* television program on England's Channel 4. The show once came close enough to appearing on the Sci-Fi channel in the US that it was actually listed in

TV Guide. It proved to much for them, though. Conspiracy is all over it, naturally, as well as segments on radionics, time travel and Satanism. Much of it takes a turn toward the sexual, with mind control sex slaves, sex life of robots, shemales, and an x-rated fetish ball. Even *Konformist* Rob Sterling's visage shines through on one segment (typically) about the extreme porn industry. None of this is gratuitous or silly, but delivered from a thoughtful angle on sex weirdness in the world.

Of primary interest, though, is footage from disinfo's pivotal 2000 conference at the Hammerstein Ballroom in New York City. The disinfo con compares favorably in history with the infamous Phenomicon in 1992 Atlanta as a gathering of the true alternative culture in the US. This footage includes one fine rap from Robert Anton Wilson and a myriad of live performances by many of the people in the book. Such devils as shock rocker Marilyn Manson, Feral House publisher Adam Parfrey, and filmmaker Kenneth Anger also make appearances.

Wilson's appearance followed a performance by Karen Black's Wall of Vaginas, prompting him to start off with a rumination on willies and the role they play in religious culture. A funnier, wiser satirist America has not yet produced.

Unfortunately left out, no doubt for space reasons since this DVD seems to reach its full information potential (a full six hours), is the conspiracy panel conducted at the conference comprised of Jonathan Vankin, Greg Bishop, Rob Sterling and the author of a *Aliens in America* author Jodi Dean. Perhaps disinfo is saving this exchange for some future DVD. Oddly, the DVD's jacket even points out that the panel is missing, in a list of other speakers and performers likewise left out. Perhaps many sequel DVDs are planned. Otherwise, this package is a tremendous opportunity to share with a greater audience the strange and enlightening event that disinfo

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put together back in 2000. Readers who missed it need desperately to check it out if they seek a gander at an genuine alternative to the mainstream ho-hum.

Also on the review desk this time: *Secret Societies of America's Elite* by Steven Sora (Destiny Books, 1 Park St., Rochester, Vermont, www.templarlegacy.com) traces the role of secret societies (not so secret: Dubya's a Skull and Boneser) in shaping the events of history. The author previously contributed a book on the Knights Templar. Here he argues that the slavers, gamblers, spies and smugglers who comprised the membership of such societies helped set America free of foreign dominance, but in the end established the power dominance of a new elite....The Abelard Reuchlin Foundation (POB 5652, Kent, WA 98064) has recycled *The True Authorship of The New Testament* by Reuchlin, asserting that the family of Calpurnius Piso wrote the New Testament and that Piso himself was the Jewish historian Josephus. The pamphlet offers a \$1416.19 reward to anyone who can disprove this. The money, of course, should go to Acharya S who does that very thing in this issue of *Steamshovel*...The formidable Nick Redfern has, along with co-author Andy Roberts, put together *Strange Secrets: Real Government Files on the Unknown*. Redfern is a formerly UK-based writer who demonstrated his tenacity as a documentary historian by putting together such books as *Covert Agenda: The British Government's UFO Top Secrets Exposed*; *The FBI Files: The FBI's UFO Top Secrets Exposed*; and *Cosmic Crashes*, all renown for their solid documentation, no small feat when dealing with the Freedom of Information Act, let alone the UK's Thirty Year rule. *Strange Secrets* accomplishes an even more formidable task than Redfern's previous efforts, dealing with how the interlocking British, American and Russian intelligence networks have handled various aspects of the paranormal and its parapolitical

cover up. Looking at files going back to the nineteenth century. *Strange Secrets* relies solely on official FOIPA and Thirty Year documents. Redfern and Kenn Thomas will both be speaking at the Majestic Documents/UFO Crash Retrieval Conference in Las Vegas, Nov. 14-16, 2003.

Check www.majesticdocuments.com for details. For an interview with Nick Redfern, go to the *Steamshovel* web site.

Trust No One: The Secret World of Sidney Reilly. Reviewed by Jaye Beldo, Netnous@aol.com

Out of a deck stacked with double agents, drawing the Ace of Spies, has been a most fortunate turn of hand for author/researcher Richard Spence. In his book *Trust No One: The Secret World of Sidney Reilly* published by Feral House, the featured spy's penchant for mercurial subterfuge, not to mention his agility in terms of maintaining multiple as well as charming identities are impressively depicted in this book. Reilly's resume of cozenage, sordid and otherwise, would certainly attract the interest of the Transnational Corporations currently ruling our world. They would probably hire Sidney on the spot and let him conduct their gun running errands carte blanche. Such suave and intriguing possibilities make reading *Trust No One* a most worthwhile endeavor, for the author allows us into a world made more accessible through his compelling and thorough research. Most fascinating are the descriptions of Reilly's ability to simultaneously hobnob with personae found in Tsarist Russia such as Rasputin to far flinging fascist elements in Italy, America and elsewhere. For comic relief, Reilly would punctuate his shady dealings, primarily in arms, with incendiary love affairs, art collecting and socializing with such notable celebrities as Rudolfo Guglielmi otherwise known as Valentino, Aleister Crowley and

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others of shadowy/glittery ilk. I recommend this book for any serious fan of international liasons and the spies who make them happen. Available from Feral House at: www.feralhouse.com.



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A message from THE COALITION ON POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS

**"Four Decades of Deceit
 JFK, MLK, RFK, Why?"**

This November will also see the 40th anniversary of the murder of John F. Kennedy in Dallas. COPA will be holding its annual regional meeting from November 21-23 at Dallas's Hotel Lawrence, near Dealey Plaza (call 214-761-9090 to reserve at the COPA rate of \$74 single/double, registration will be \$20/day at the gate). At the same time, we are co-sponsoring a conference in Pittsburgh, PA, and we will be video-conferencing as much as we can of key events there. We will hold our annual Moment of Silence on the Grassy Knoll as well at 12:30 pm on November 22. Our speakers are still being lined up, but will include Ronnie Dugger, Paris Flammonde, Bill Kelly, Philip Melanson, Joe Biel and others.

**"Solving the Great American
 Murder Mystery"**

From November 20-22 at the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law, located at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a special forum will be held on the forensic issues in the JFK assassination. Highlight speakers will include Senator Arlen Specter, Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, Dr. Michael Baden, Dr. Gary Aguilar, Mark Lane, Judge John Tunheim, Robert Tannenbaum, Josiah Thompson, David Wrone, Joan Mellon, Walt Brown, John Newman, and Zachary Sklar. (Reservation and schedule information will be posted at www.forensics.duq.edu, or call 412-396-1049.

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COPA's recent work

In addition, COPA has continued to push for full release of records to the JFK collection and assisted with research into the files at National Archives II. T. Carter continues work to get legislation introduced that will release all files on the life and death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She helped to draft a bill that was put into the record at the last minute by outgoing Rep. Cynthia McKinney. We are currently seeking serious sponsors for the bill in this Congress among the Congressional Black Caucus. The bill will have the support of former HSCA members Walter Fauntroy and Bob Edgar, Jesse Jackson, Jr. and Martin Luther King III, among others.

Due to the growing interest in the real events of September 11, 2001 and their authorship, sparked by a call in November that year by Peter Dale Scott at our regional meeting, COPA co-founder John Judge created the Independent Network of Deep Politics Researchers, to share pertinent information on 9/11 from published and online sources with other researchers. (See www.ratical.org for a posting of those articles). This has recently grown into the establishment of the 9/11 CitizensWatch, co-founded by John Judge and Kyle Hence, an activist who has worked tirelessly to raise the unanswered questions of that event. This watchdog group is performing a function similar to COPA's role with the JFK Assassination Records Review Board, working to influence the course of the official investigation of the new National Commission on Terrorist Acts Upon the United States.

(See www.911citizenswatch.org for information and links).

COPA has also supported independent efforts to re-inter JFK's remains for forensic examination, and to petition for a new Grand Jury examination of the murder. Researcher Bill Kelly is working on presenting a mock grand jury hearing at our Dallas event. COPA members have explored compiling a tabloid-style newsprint edition of the latest evidence in the assassinations to alert the public of the need to resolve these cases.

We need you

COPA was created by and for the research community. Since our 1998 National Conference, COPA has run on a very minimal budget, holding regional meetings that barely financed the next year's event, with many costs paid out of pocket by the organizers. Given our broader agenda this year, which includes four separate meetings in as many cities, and our plan to link the Pittsburgh and Dallas conferences by video, we cannot hope to accomplish all this without your support. A few donors made the Memphis conference a success, however our resources following the conference could not pay for a full mailing to announce the rest of the events. COPA recently reopened a small bank account for donations, but we are struggling to meet the costs of the LA conference already.

COPA cannot exist without you.

Please make as generous a donation as you can to our work today. Just send a check to COPA, Department Steamshovel, P.O. Box 772, Washington, DC 20044. Donations to COPA are not tax-deductible. We hope to see you at one or more of this year's events. Please help us make them happen.

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JFK Lancer

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★ AWARDS BANQUET: Saturday evening 7:00 pm

★ Included in entry fee. Additional plates \$25.00 (must be paid in advance)

★ WOMEN'S LUNCH: Friday 12:noon, \$15.00 (must be paid in advance)

★ Women's Lunch participants are limited to conference attendees.

★ BUS TOUR: The bus tour will be broken into several small groups this year.

★ Times will be announced at the conference. Fee TBA.

Contact: Debra Conway - JFK Lancer, Inc.; 100 Stonewood Court; Southlake, TX
76092; 817-488-8694; conwayd@jfklander.com; www.jfklander.com

continued from inside front cover

extending the scope of investigation and interpretation only so far, not beyond a certain comfort level...not beyond the pale.

Nicholas Towasser
New York



Media Monotone panel: moderator Nicholas Towasser; Jon Friedman, a columnist for *CBS Marketwatch*; writer and Satanist Michael Moynihan; Steve Rendall, of the media watchdog Fair and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR); Kenn Thomas, and Lee Wengraf, coordinator for the *Socialist Worker*. To hear the entire discussion, go to:

www.medil.northwestern.edu/inside/2003/monotone.html
or send \$5 to *Steamshovel Press* for a CD of it.



Above: *Ferment's* Roy Lisker attends the Media Monotone panel. Check out www.fermentmagazine.org

In addition to *Steamshovel's* latest book efforts, *Popular Paranoia* and *The Shadow Government* by Len Bracken, I have been reading another excellent anthology, *Wake Up Down There*. Although it sounds like it's about Viagra, it's actually a tremendous collection of one of two magazines the rival *Steamshovel* for the top spot on the list of the most incredible zines out there, *Excluded Middle*. The other one would be Jim Martin's *Flatland Magazine*. None of these magazines, including *Steamshovel*, come out often enough and I hope that changes in the future.

Raymond Stevens
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Dear *Steamshovel*:

What is the best place to get conspiracy information on the web?

Steamshovel debris: *Steamshovel's* own not withstanding, that would be Rob Sterling's *Konformist*, at Konformist.com.

Where does one get a copy of *The Christ Conspiracy* by Acharya S? [*Steamshovel* debris: see page 37] I have heard so much about this fantastic author and her works. This is a major conspiracy that I have been somewhat familiar with all my life — even growing up as a Christian attending Cornerstone Christian School. I had been skeptical of Christianity's false doctrine of the "morally justifiable" deception on human enslavement. *Lost Books of the Bible* refers to many of the lies and I resent the elite few's deceitful attempt at the suppression of ancient pre-Christian cultures. I am not a Satanist and do not practice any of the supposed arts of esoteric lineage or occultism. However, I am a very open minded individual and student practitioner when it comes to "All conspiracy. No theory."

Brandon Lee Garvin
Beaumont, Texas



Above: Countereconspiracy crew: Greg Bishop (*Excluded Middle* and *Wake Up Down There*); the *Konformist's* Rob Sterling; *Flatland's* Jim Martin; *Christ Conspiracy/Suns of God* author Acharya S; and *Steamshovel's* Kenn Thomas.)



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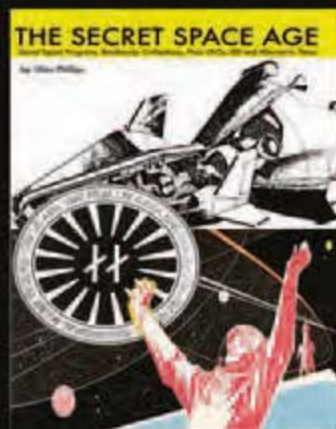
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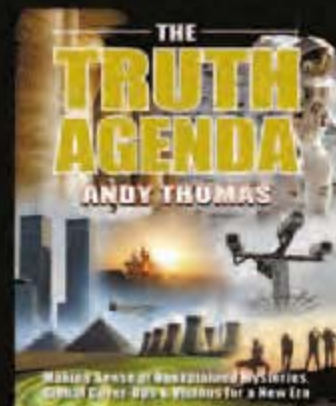


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